Current Questions in Mathematics and Sciences PSCD02H3

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It is intended to increase our overall scientific literacy through discussions, writings and presenting the materials on the current topics in mathematics and sciences. The discussions will be based on the lecture materials that will be delivered by the invited lecturers, the course instructor and of course tyou!

Further particulars of the course requirements will be explained through the grading scheme which is as follows:

Attendance	10%
Participation in course discussions	15%
Tutorial short quizzes	5%
Overview of a paper (reading week)	5%
Critical Annotated Bibliography	15%
Paper (essay)	25%

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are unsure if your topic is acceptable, please do not hesitate to talk to me! You will write an annotated bibliography and a paper and give a 15 min presentation on your chosen topic (see below).

2. The next step – you do research on your topic. The sources you should use for your research should be a general science sources: books and general science journals. You should not go in technical depth (again the goal is not to make you an expert in high energy physics if you are a biologist but rather the goal is to make you research and understand a
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3. Write a critical annotated bibliography. Your critical annotated bibliography is due on February 3rd in class (5% of your mark will be deducted per day late). It should be typed and about 1250 words in length. The annotated bibliography should have about 250 words devoted to a short introduction to your topic. The introduction is followed by very short description for each source you are going to use for your final paper and presentation. Each source should be briefly described in about one paragraph. We shall talk about annotated
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during one of our classes and tutorials. This assignment is the point where the quality of your topic and your sources are evaluated. It is also important that you demonstrate the ability to summarize your sources and evaluate its usefulness for your paper.
4. Write the paper. The paper should be about 2000 to 2500 words in length. Again, the details about the paper will be given in due time (format, evaluation criteria, submitting the paper etc.). The annotated bibliography serves as a good preparation for writing the paper. You will have to submit your final paper through turnitin.com and submit a hardcopy in class. Regarding TurnItIn service, please note the following:

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference

database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.

The paper is due electronically on turnitin.com by 11:59 pm on Tuesday March 8th. Identical paper copy must then be submitted on Wednesday March 9th in class. Again, 5% of your mark will be deducted per day late!

Some important parts for the evaluation of your paper are style, referencing, organization, grammar, topic coverage and meeting the length requirements.

5. Prepare and deliver your presentation. Finally, you have to give a 15 min presentation (strictly 15 minutes!!) on your topic based on the paper you submitted. The Q&A session follows each presentation (about 5 min for this). You have to e-mail me your presentation slides, because the slides will be posted on the intranet for others to follow! Considering the time-constrains, your presentation does not have to cover all material form your paper: it can focus on one part of your topic.

   Your presentation will be judged based on, among other points: time, quality of oral skills, and quality of slides.

The Preliminary Course Content

Unfortunately, the schedule is not strictly fixed still and I am still waiting for the conformation from several invited speakers. It will be updated on a regular basis as the speakers (guest lecturers) confirm their participation.

Office hours and contact info

My office is located in the new environmental sciences and chemistry building (behind the Instructional Center), 5th

To falsify or alter