

FINAL PROJECT

Project checklist:

- Think about a project which interests you, some ideas are given below.
- By the end of week 1 you should have a project outline which consists of a i) topic, ii) goals, and iii) work plan. This doesn't need to be fancy, just a few sentences and a good idea. Please consult me (by email, after class, office hours, or any other time) about your proposal.
- Over the final week plan to work roughly an hour each day on your project.
- During class on Thursday and Friday of the final week give a 5 minute presentation on what you have done. Please do not put a lot of effort into preparing the presentation – it is meant to be an opportunity to share what you have learned and hopefully spur some questions and discussion.

A suitable project can be anything which relates to the topics of the class and may contain significant math or no math at all. Here are some examples:

- Solving a challenging problem which requires significant math.
 - Depends on your math and physics background. Please let me know soon to decide on a suitable problem.
- Biography of a major developer of relativity.
 - Albert Einstein
 - Arthur Eddington
 - Hendrik Lorentz
 - Albert Michelson
 - Stephen Hawking
 - Ed Witten
 - Ernst Mach
 - Theodor Kaluza
- Biography of a major developer of “classical” physics.
 - Isaac Newton
 - Johannes Kepler
 - James Clerk Maxwell
 - Galileo Galilei
- Historical development of geometry.
 - Euclid and/or his book
 - Riemannian geometry
- Philosophy
 - Ideas of space and time. How this has changed throughout history.
 - Time travel (paradoxes)
- Computing the Hubble constant from available online data.
- Record 5 meaningful questions you have asked yourself during the course and answer them.
- Report on current experiments.
 - LIGO, gravitational wave astronomy
 - LISA, gravitational wave astronomy
 - CERN, creating mini blackholes
 - Gravitational lensing
 - Gravity probe B
 - Dark matter or energy