Please read the following instructions carefully. The SS project accounts for roughly a third of your final year marks, so you need to commit to the project and work very hard over the nine week period.

Schedule
Projects run from the start of Michaelmas term, **Monday, 25th September 2017** until the end of ninth week of term, **Friday 24th November 2017**. Lectures commence in week 10. Projects continue through Study Week (week 7).

Interim Report
A brief interim report, of maximum length 500 words, must be submitted to Professor Coleman, not later than the end of the fifth week of Michaelmas Term. It must be submitted by email to colemaj@tcd.ie as **plain text**. Diagrams, tables etc are NOT required. **E-mails must reach Professor Coleman no later than 5 p.m. on Friday 27th October 2017.**

Final Report
Guidelines for writing up your final report are being sent to you as a separate email attachment.

1. Five copies of your final report are required. Three copies must be handed in to the School of Physics Office, **not later than the first teaching day of Hilary Term, Monday, 15th January 2018. THIS IS A HARD AND FAST DEADLINE.**
2. The fourth copy should be handed in person to your project supervisor. If your project is outside College, you should ensure that your supervisor receives a copy by the same date. When you submit your copies, you will be asked to confirm that you have already given a copy to your supervisor.
3. Report submission is always your personal responsibility. If you fail to submit a report you can obtain no marks for it.
4. If an **ad misericordiam** reason, such as illness, appears likely to prevent you from handing in your project report on time you must contact the Head of School as soon as the problem arises. An **ad misericordiam** reason will not be considered if it is offered after the submission deadline.
5. You must also retain a fifth copy of your report for yourself, since none of the submitted copies will be returned to you. You should bring your copy with you if the External Examiner calls you to a **viva voce** examination after the Moderatorship examinations.

Poster
You are required to present a poster of your work, which will be assessed at the poster exhibition, typically held on an afternoon in the middle of February: details will be circulated later. A poster template is being sent to you as a separate email attachment. **You must email the Powerpoint slide of your poster to the School Administrator, Colm Stephens, at stephec@tcd.ie, also by the first teaching day of Hilary Term, Monday, 15th January 2018. You must use your name in the filename of the email attachment to allow identification.** The School will arrange for the A0 poster to be printed off and you will be notified when you can collect it, typically shortly before the poster session.
Marking

There are four elements contributing to the final mark for the Project:

1) The Supervisor's mark (40%)
2) The 2nd and 3rd Reader's mark, 20% each (40%)
3) Poster mark: 2nd, 3rd Readers, 10% each (20%)
4) A small panel of Examiners, typically comprising myself and Heads of Courses, interviews each student during Study Week in Hilary Term (26th February – 2nd March 2018), and agrees the final mark.

The marking guidelines are as follows:

Supervisor's Mark

Guidelines for the breakdown of the Supervisor’s mark:

a) Results obtained 25
b) Effort and Performance 45
c) Initiative and Understanding 30
Total 100

Second and Third Readers’ Marks

Guidelines for the breakdown of the 2nd and 3rd Readers’ marks for the Report:

a) Introduction/Background 20
b) Scientific content 50
c) Presentation 20
d) Conclusions 10
Total 100

Poster Mark

Guidelines for the breakdown of the Poster mark, provided by the 2nd and 3rd Readers:

a) Understanding 50
b) Presentation 50
Total 100

Professor Jonathan Coleman
Senior Sophister Year Coordinator

April 2017