SS PROJECTS 2019-2020

Please read the following instructions carefully. The SS project accounts for 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 Semester 1, Monday, 9th September 2019 until the end of ninth week of term, Friday 8th November 2019. Lectures commence at the start of week 10, Monday 11th November 2019. 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 Semester 1. 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 11th October 2019.

Draft for Supervisor
A draft copy of your report should be submitted to your supervisor for feedback in plenty of time before the deadline for submission of the final report.

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 Semester 2, Monday, 20th January 2020. 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. A pdf version should be also be submitted through Blackboard (details to follow).

6. 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 Colm Stephens, at stephec@tcd.ie, also by the first teaching day of
Semester 2, Monday, 20th January 2020. You must use your name (surname.firstname) 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 Semester 2 (2nd – 6th March 2020), 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  June 2019