PHYS-4240: General Relativity
ASTR-4240: Gravitation & Cosmology

General Information

Instructor	Professor Wayne G. Roberge (roberw at rpi dot edu) Science Center Room 1C36 276-6454
Office Hours	Mon & Wed from 2:00-3:00 or by appointment*
TA	Matthew Grabala (nkevin at gmail dot com)
TA Office Hours	Mon from 4:00-5:00 in JROWL 1C28 (aka the HBH Lab)
Class Meetings	Tues & Fri, 12:00-1:50 in Ricketts 212
Attendance	Attendance is not required but in-class activities count toward the final grade.
Learning Assessment	Problem sets (45%), 3 exams (45%) and in-class activities (10%).
Learning Outcomes	A student who successfully completes this course will be able to: • Solve problems in Special and General Relativity. • Express physical laws in covariant form. • Use a metric tensor to relate coordinates to observables. • Describe the generic models of homogeneous, isotropic universes. • Describe the parameters which distinguish different universes. • Describe the parameter values which best describe our universe.
Text	*Gravitation and Spacetime, 2nd Edition*, by H. Ohanian and R. Ruffini (required). Be sure to check the online errata list frequently.
Course Homepage	http://www.rpi.edu/dept/phys/Courses/ASTR4240/adm/GR_Home.htm
Academic Honesty	Students are responsible for upholding the rules of academic honesty as spelled out in the *Rensselaer Handbook*. Students are encouraged to collaborate on homework but must write up solutions independently. Students may not copy or paraphrase homework solutions obtained from the internet, textbooks, or any other sources. A single instance of cheating will result in a failing grade for the course.

*NB: These have changed.

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Last modified 2/1/12.