

# Information for Physics Professional MS Program students

dear Physics Professional MS and GNM students:

Welcome to the UW Professional MS in Physics program! I am sure you have a number of questions about planning your course sequence, registration, requirements to maintain good standing, etc.

We have an unusual number of new students starting in Winter Quarter, so I'll use this broadcast to send you the info provided at a meeting for new students we held in September.

Please also review the presentation given here;

<https://depts.washington.edu/emsp/posts/msinfo-orientation2020.pdf>

Information for new PMSP students:

Winter Quarter 2021 classes begin on Monday, January 4. The UW campus will remain closed except for special classes, so attendance at our classes will be by Zoom only. (See item 1 below for information on using Zoom, and item 2 below for links to class websites and information.)

All student should contact me ([wilkes@uw.edu](mailto:wilkes@uw.edu)) for an advising meeting at least once per academic year; you can of course contact me anytime you have questions or concerns.

## 1. Using Zoom for online attendance:

If you have not yet used Zoom videoconferencing software, you can find instructions here:

<https://itconnect.uw.edu/connect/phones/conferencing/zoom-video-conferencing/log-in/>

Be sure to download the latest version of the Zoom app, and test it before class time.

Standard procedure in case of Zoom trouble: 1. WAIT: freeze-ups usually recover after a minute or two.

Otherwise, leave and try logging in again. 2. If trouble persists, check

<https://itconnect.uw.edu/connect/phones/conferencing/zoom-video-conferencing/uw-zoom-faq/>

## 2. Connection and contact information for classes:

**PHYS 441**, Quantum Theory, Prof. Anna Goussiou, [goussiou@uw.edu](mailto:goussiou@uw.edu)

For course information:

Myplan page: [https://myplan.uw.edu/course/-/courses/PHYS 441](https://myplan.uw.edu/course/-/courses/PHYS%20441)

Canvas page: <https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1401610>

**PHYS 545**, Contemporary Optics, Prof. Jeffrey Wilkes, [wilkes@uw.edu](mailto:wilkes@uw.edu)

Canvas page: <https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1435884>

If you have concerns about your course work or potential grade, please contact your class instructor for help and advice. Don't hesitate - our goal is to help you succeed.

**PHYS 600**: If you already have a final project mentor, use his/her faculty code to register for PHYS 600, after agreeing upon the number of credits and requirements.

If you want to do a 1 or 2 credit exploratory independent study course, see

[https://www.physicsmasters.uw.edu/uwmsp/media/physicsmasters/phys\\_600\\_instructions.pdf](https://www.physicsmasters.uw.edu/uwmsp/media/physicsmasters/phys_600_instructions.pdf)

for information and suggestions for topics. You must email me <[emsp@uw.edu](mailto:emsp@uw.edu)> before you register, and send the brief proposal described there.

## 3. Contact persons for questions:

a) For anything to do with **course registration or tuition payment**:

Mr. Brian Cox at PCE, [bc26@uw.edu](mailto:bc26@uw.edu), 206-616-5104.

b) For any **academic questions, or advising**:

Prof. Jeffrey Wilkes [emsp@uw.edu](mailto:emsp@uw.edu) or phone 206-543-4232 (but always use email first!)

Note: it helps me organize my work if you send PMSP-related email to [emsp@uw.edu](mailto:emsp@uw.edu), but my personal

address is OK also.

c) For anything relating to **UW, Graduate School, or Physics Department rules and procedures:**

Ms Catherine Provost, Graduate Student Adviser, [cuala@uw.edu](mailto:cuala@uw.edu),

### 3. Registration for classes:

If you have not yet registered for classes, please do so immediately.

Remember, to register for PMSP classes, **ONLY** use course information provided in the PCE time schedule,

<https://www.washington.edu/students/timeschd/AUT2020/95phys.html>

EXCEPT - New students: If you were admitted less than a week ago, please wait until you receive registration instructions from PCE; if you do not receive instructions within one week, contact contact Mr. Brian Cox at PCE, [bc26@uw.edu](mailto:bc26@uw.edu) , 206-616-5104.

**MS degree students register online via their MyUW page.**

**GNM students MUST use the procedures and form sent by UW-PCE to register by mail or phone.**

MS students must register for credit every quarter except Summer. If you do not want to take classes for any reason, apply for on-leave status (link on your MyUW page) to maintain your active status and avoid having to pay reinstatement fees.

GNM students only need to register once per year to maintain status.

### 4. Classes to take

The normal path for new students is to first complete three core courses, PHYS 543 (Autumn), PHYS 441 (Winter) and PHYS 544 (Spring). If you wish, you can do PHYS 600 independent study for 1 or 2 additional credits at any time (including summers).

Since you are joining in Winter term, you should first take PHYS 441. Courses offered Spring term have core-course prerequisites, and we do not offer courses other than PHYS 600 in Summer Quarter.

MS students may choose to take PHYS 600 in Spring or Summer; non-PMSP electives are allowed, but you must contact me and the instructor for prior permission.

GNM students should avoid accumulating credits other than core courses if they intend to apply for the MS program later, since only 12 credits taken as GNM can be applied.

### 5. Websites for our program:

General information about PMSP: <https://www.physicsmasters.uw.edu/>

Special page for active students, with info about registration, final project preparations, how to prepare for your final exam, etc. <https://depts.washington.edu/emsp/>

Physics Department home page: to learn about research groups, schedules for colloquia and seminars, and other department info. <https://phys.washington.edu/>

### 6. Resources for students

a) Since campus is closed, we've set up a chat space where you can post messages, contact fellow students to set up Facetime or Zoom meetings, or exchange questions/answers and information. UW IT provides students access to Microsoft Office 365 Teams, where we have set up a Team site; only the chat room function is intended for use. please try it out.

First, go to <https://uwnetid.washington.edu/manage/>

and if you do not already have MS Office 365 enabled for your account, request that - it may take a few hrs to be set up.

Then, go to

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/team/19%3a065de9623fb54643a5ad007767baf0ce%40thread.tacv2/conversations?groupId=eb3520bd-c0c0-4595-820d-d983c8628214&tenantId=f6b6dd5b-f02f-441a-99a0-162ac5060bd2>

and when requested give the entry code: rnj16m5

Please contact UW IT Help, [help@uw.edu](mailto:help@uw.edu) (not me! I have no Teams expertise) if you have any questions about getting or using Teams.

b) While most physical facilities on campus are closed, you still have access to all online resources via your UW NetID. You should familiarize yourself with the many services as well as books and journals accessible online via the UW Library system.

See for example

How to connect to UW Library resources from off-campus:

<https://www.lib.washington.edu/help/connect/connect>

How to chat with a librarian, or arrange online consultations:

<https://www.lib.washington.edu/about/contact>

Enjoy learning more physics!

--Jeffrey Wilkes, PMSP faculty coordinator