

# S.U. DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

## Teaching Assistant Training & Graduate Exams

### Fall 2019

(There are two examinations given in August. All new graduate students must take the comprehensive exam. You may choose to attempt the qualifying examination – email [phyadmin@syr.edu](mailto:phyadmin@syr.edu) if you would like to take it. Second year students take the qualifying examination. Both examinations have two parts: one on Saturday, one on Sunday.)

**Saturday, August 17 & Sunday, August 18** **202/204 Physics Building**  
**9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon** **Qualifying Exam (Paul Souder, Liviu Movileanu, Jen Schwarz)**

**Saturday, August 17 & Sunday, August 18: ALL INCOMING STUDENTS, 202/204 Physics Building**  
**2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.** **Comprehensive Exam (Joey Paulsen)**  
**Part I – Saturday; Part II -- Sunday**

#### Monday, August 19

*\*All new grad students are encouraged to attend the welcome breakfast and GSO presentation*

*\*All new TAs are required to attend the teaching panels & practical TA intros*

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|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| <b>8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.</b>  | <b>Annual Pancake Breakfast</b><br>All graduate students, faculty, and staff are invited. Please come and meet our new graduate students in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Plenty of good food too!<br>[Breakfast served 8:30am-9:30am] (Sam Sampere)  | <b>202-204 Physics Building</b> |
| <b>10:00 - 10:15 a.m.</b>      | <b>Graduate School Professional and Career Development</b><br>Simona Rosu  | <b>202 PB</b>                   |
| <b>10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.</b> | <b>All Graduate Students</b><br>Graduate Student Organization meeting and elections.<br>Patrick Miles  | <b>202 Physics Building</b>     |
| <b>10:30 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.</b> | <b>Panel Discussion with Physics faculty on Teaching</b><br><i>Joey Paulsen, Jack Laiho, Marina Artuso</i>   | <b>202 PB</b>                   |
| <b>11:15 a.m. – 12 noon</b>    | <b>Panel Discussion with Teaching Assistants</b><br><b>Features of Good TA Work</b><br><i>Abhilash Yallappa-Dombara, Andrew Ballard, Kenny Ratliff, Ohana Rodrigues</i>  | <b>202 PB</b>                   |
| <b>12:00 – 1:00 p.m.</b>       | <b>Lunch for graduate students</b>   | <b>204 PB</b>                   |
| <b>1:00 – 2:30 p.m</b>         | <b>Practical Introduction to Leading Recitations and Labs</b><br><b>(please choose a session according to your TA assignment)</b><br><br>PHY211– led by Merrill Asp (rm 202)<br>PHY212 – led by Ali Imran (rm204)<br>PHY101 – led by Hangyi Wu (rm 110)<br>PHY221/222 – led by Maxx Swoger (rm B113)<br>AST101 – led by Scott Bassler (Holden Observatory classroom) |                                 |

## Tuesday, August 20

*\*All new grad students are encouraged to attend the library and professional Development events and research overviews*

**10:00 –10:45 a.m.**                    **Introduction to Library Resources**                    **202 PB**  
Syracuse University Librarian, Emily Hart

**11:00 – 11:45 a.m.**                    **Remarks by Academic Coordinator: Clinic, Registration, etc.**                    **202 PB**

**Yudaisy Salomon Sargenton**

- Clinic + TA/teaching rules and absence policy\*\*\*
- Academic planning and registration info
- Adventure Course info
- Desk/Office/mailbox assignments!

**12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m.**                    **Lunch for new graduate students**                    **204 PB**

**1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**                    **Research Overviews by Physics Faculty (Poster Session)**                    **202 PB**  
\* point person

Gravitational Wave Astronomy – Ballmer, Brown, Saulson\*  
High Energy Experiment – Artuso, Blusk\*, Rudolph, Skwarnicki, Stone  
Theoretical Cosmology & Elementary Particle Physics  
    – Catterall, Hubisz, Laiho, Watson\*  
Biological Physics – Movileanu\*  
Soft Matter Physics – Manning\*, Middleton, Paulsen, Schwarz  
Condensed Matter Experiment – Plourde\*, Schiff  
Neutrinos – Soderberg, Whittington  
Experimental Astrophysics – Vidali  
Medium Energy Physics – Souder

**2:30 pm – 3:30pm**                    ***informal tours of labs organized by research groups***

## **Wednesday, August 21 – Encouraged for ALL new graduate students**

***\*All new graduate students are required to attend the Chemical Hygiene Training***

**9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.      Initial Lab Safety Training      TBD**  
**Required** – for **all** new graduate students, staff, faculty, adjuncts and others who have not yet participated in this training.

***\*\*Enjoy the rest of your day!\*\****

## **Thursday, August 22**

***\*Academic Advising is required for all new Graduate Students***

***\*All new graduate students are encouraged to attend the Adventure course event***

**8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.      Adventure Course + Team Building      600 Skytop Road, South Campus**  
**Yudaisy Salomon Sargenton, Heather Ketcham, graduate students?**

**12:30 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.      Lunch at ropes course**

**3:30 p.m.      Academic Advising      202 PB**  
Required --- for all **new graduate students**, whether you have previously received academic advising or not. An overview of our academic program will be provided & the results of your comprehensive exam will be distributed. Presented by the Director of Graduate Studies, Prof. Mitchell Soderberg.

***\*\*All new graduate students are encouraged to arrange their own advising meetings with their personal academic advisors on this Thursday morning after the presentation by Prof. Soderberg, or on Friday before registering for classes. \*\****