

## Physics 1102 – Science Outreach

Peter Sheldon

Martin 316, x8488, 434-238-5681

**Objective:** Plan and participate in community science outreach that includes people of various age ranges and backgrounds. Understand the purpose and objectives of science outreach. Assist people to learn in fun and different learning environments.

**Description and Requirements:** If we meet, you can count those meeting hours towards your total required for the semester. The majority of the class time will be spent working on actual outreach activities. Including meeting times, you should plan on an average of three hours per week (for each 0.5 credits during a 7-week session). If you spend nine hours on one outreach event one week, that can count as three weeks – you just need to log your hours and make sure you get to at least 21. You should participate in at least 7 hours of outreach that reaches off-campus people. This course is PASS/FAIL, and you will pass if you log the time and it is clear to the faculty that those hours were productive.

This course has three components:

1. Learning about outreach – We may meet occasionally to discuss why do outreach and to discuss what we can do.
2. Preparing for outreach – You will have the opportunity to come up with your own ideas, and to help prepare for some planned outreach. This can involve many different things such as gathering or putting away equipment, building or fixing equipment, preparing activities and supplies, updating websites, and coming up with ideas.
3. Outreach – For each half credit during a 7 week session: You will need to volunteer for at least 7 hours of outreach that actually requires your interaction with people (but need a total of 21 hours including all aspects of outreach) that will vary such as working with the nursery school, with Science Saturdays, at GetDowntown, working with a FIRST LEGO League team, volunteering at the Science Festival, Boys & Girls' Club, Jubilee Center, Vector Space, or many other things.

**Most Important Rule:** Do not miss an outreach activity that you have committed to! This is not the same as missing a class – it is unacceptable, because people are depending on you.

### Necessary Actions:

- Log hours spent involved with this class (details to be provided in Moodle)
- Sign up for activities when Dr. Sheldon presents them
- Look for other opportunities, and let Dr. Sheldon know if you find outreach opportunities other than those he brings up

### Possible Activities:

- **Fall:** Science Saturdays, GetDowntown, FIRST Lego, TikTok or YouTube video project, and more
- **Spring:** Science Festival, JrFLL mentors, TikTok or YouTube video project, and more