

Week 1 Class Information Sheet (8/22/2020)

Hello MSCI220C-02 and MSCI220C-05 Students –

Welcome Back to our new normal: on Monday or Tuesday we will begin this semester's class via remote learning. Please read this entire document. To maximize the time we will spend together in our Zoom Meetings most efficiently, I will **normally** be posting the Class PowerPoints on our class website at:

<http://www.charlesrubenstein.com/220>

by the end of the day on the Wednesday one week prior to each of our classes. As our first Zoom class meeting is on Monday 24 August 2020 or Tuesday 25 August 2020, this message and next week's materials, are being posted today. You are expected to review the class materials – especially the full-page slide version of the class session **20fa01.pdf**, Zoom meeting information, the syllabus and preliminary class schedule, **BEFORE CLASS!**

Per Session 1, slide 60, in addition to this file, there are several other files and six 'weekly folders' already posted online. Please download the Zoom app for your PC from <https://zoom.us> or for your smart phone from the App Store. Please review **220_Zoom_Info.pdf** which has the specifics for our Zoom Meetings (***the Zoom Meeting IDs and Passcodes will not change during the semester***), and my Office Hours (***by appointment only, on Wednesdays 10:00am – 2:00pm***).

I will presume that you are in the greater New York area (or at least on the East Coast and observe Eastern Time). *If that is not the case, please email me and let me know where you will be this semester and what time zone you are in.*

Review your Pratt email regularly in case there are messages from me (*or your other instructors*) that you need to read. Email me immediately if you have any questions and/or challenges. If relative to a particular session, include Session and Slide numbers.

There is no required textbook but several - on reserve in the Library - are listed as references. There will be lots of YouTube videos and readings throughout the semester. There will also be a required 'research' paper as well as a final project on a topic or device within the context of the Science of Light. There will be take-home exams.

CAUTION – ABOUT TAKE-HOME EXAM SUBMISSIONS

***EXAMS WILL BE EMAILED TO BOTH CLASSES ON THE SAME DAY
THEY WILL HAVE THE SAME DUE DATE.***

Exams must be emailed to me as a pdf file not later than 12:00Noon the day they are due. Your work MUST be readable and legible. If you are NOT using word-processing, your written work must be dark enough so it can be easily read and scanned into a pdf. If I cannot read or understand your work, I cannot grade your work. No grade = ZERO for the Exam! I will review your materials around 12:30pm and immediately let you know if you must redo/resend – not later than 2:00pm! The midterm exam will be reviewed in class the week after it is due. Make-up exams are not permitted.

ABOUT MY OFFICE HOURS

As most discussions are likely to be private... ***you must email me at least by Noon on Monday if you want to schedule an Office Hour chat via Zoom on Wednesday.*** Of course, in any emergency, email me and we will try to find an appropriate time for a one-on-one Zoom meeting.

ABOUT CALCULATORS

You will need a calculator or computer/smart phone app to perform the various mathematical exercises in the course. You will need to take square roots and perform trigonometric calculations with sines and cosines.

This will certainly be an interesting semester. Please be sure to keep me, and your other professors, aware of anything that might reduce your ability to succeed in your classes.

Be safe, and keep healthy!

- CR

P.S. ABOUT THE MONDAY CLASS SCHEDULE CHALLENGE

Please note that we will NOT have Monday Zoom classes on Monday 7 September (Labor Day) nor on Monday 28 September (Instructor's Religious Holiday). However, as the Tuesday class will meet both weeks, if nothing were to happen, the Monday class would be about two weeks behind the Tuesday class for most of the semester.

I emailed the Monday class students and although most of you have responded to my request for your location during the semester and your ability to meet other times during the week. As would be expected, with all our busy schedules, there was no universally good time for a make-up class during the week of 7 and 28 September.

This coming Monday we will evaluate how to keep up with the Tuesday classes. This will most likely be accomplished doing double-classes the week after each date (on 14 September and 5 October) to synchronize the two classes.

Then the Monday and Tuesday classes will have November 2 and November 3 off.