

JPH 441S – PHYSICAL SCIENCE IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY
Spring Term, 2013
GENERAL INFORMATION

LECTURER: Prof. Kimberly Strong
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LECTURES: 5:10-7:00 PM, Tuesdays, Room MP134

OFFICE HOURS: 3:00-4:00 PM Tuesdays and Thursdays, Room MP710A
You can also contact me to arrange an appointment or just drop by my office – if I have time, I will be pleased to answer your questions.

MARKING: 15% Written report #1 – individual (due in class, February 12)
20% Mid-term test (in class, February 26)
15% Written report #2 – team (due in class, April 2)
10% Oral presentation on report #2 – team (in class, March 19, 26 and April 2)
40% Final exam

HOME PAGE: <http://www.atmosp.physics.utoronto.ca/people/strong/jph441/jph441.html>
Supplementary material will be posted on the course homepage.

TEXTBOOKS: **Required Text:** (available at the University of Toronto Bookstore)
The Demon-Haunted World, Carl Sagan, Ballantine Books, 1996
Additional Readings, both Required and Suggested:
Will be handed out in class and/or posted on the course homepage.

OUTLINE: Lecture topics may change...

LECTURE	DATE	TOPIC
Lecture 1	January 8	The nature of science; the scientific method
Lecture 2	January 15	Thinking scientifically; pseudoscience
Lecture 3	January 22	Peer review; communicating science
Lecture 4	January 29	Science outreach; publishing, credit, impact
Lecture 5	February 5	Science funding; science and public policy
Lecture 6	February 12	Case study: atmospheric ozone (report #1 due)
Lecture 7	February 26	Mid-term test
Lecture 8	March 5	Case study: climate change
Lecture 9	March 12	Public perception of science; frontiers of science
Lecture 10	March 19	Team presentations on report #2
Lecture 11	March 26	Team presentations on report #2
Lecture 12	April 2	Team presentations on report #2 (report #2 due)

ACCESSIBILITY: The U. of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: disability.services@utoronto.ca, or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>.