

Organization of the Course

Christian Wüthrich

<http://philosophy.ucsd.edu/faculty/wuthrich/>

25 Science, Philosophy, and the Big Questions
Winter 2012

Course website

`http://philosophy.ucsd.edu/faculty/wuthrich/teaching.html`

There, you can find:

- syllabus
- lecture notes (presentation slides)
- study guides
- [paper assignments](#)
- grading comments
- news pertaining to this class
- background material

[You are responsible for reading your email.](#)

Contact me

Office hours: Th 3-4:50pm and by appointment

Room 8047 HSS

☎ 858-534-6548 ✉ wuthrich@ucsd.edu

Teaching assistant: nobody

- Section on W, 12-12:50pm is **cancelled**
- only the section on F 12:00 to 12:50pm will be staffed
- no attendance will be taken

Course materials

- John Norton, *Einstein for Everyone*, available at http://www.pitt.edu/~jdnorton/teaching/HPS_0410/chapters/index.html.
- recommended background reading: Joseph Schwartz and Michael McGuinness, *Einstein for Beginners*, New York: Pantheon Books (1979).
- You will need to purchase an **i>clicker**, the student response system used in this class. These 'clickers' are available at the Price Center bookstore and cost \$46.75 (new) or \$35.10 (used). Make sure to get an i>clicker and not a different system such as H-ITT or PRS. For more information, visit <http://acms.ucsd.edu/units/mediaservices/clickers.shtml>.

Course requirements and evaluation

I grade to the curve! (see Syllabus for details)

- 1 *Participation/clicker* (20 points)
- 2 *Assignments* (25 points)
- 3 *Quizzes* (25 points)
- 4 *Final exam* (30 points)

(1) Participation (20 points)

- Clicker score based on in-class questions that you answer using the i>clicker student response system
- participating in these small quizzes and polls, your clicker score will be the percentage of points earned divided by the maximum possible
- **Important:** you must have your clicker every class period to get these points—no exceptions

(2) Assignments (25 points)

- assignment due each week in section (unless otherwise announced)
- one point/problem
- maximum 25 points (out of a few more problems)

(3) Quizzes (25 points)

- six short quizzes (announced in class one meeting before they will be held)
- each worth 5 points, with the best five counting towards your grade
- no make-up quizzes will be given

(4) Final exam (30 points)

- final exam on Thursday, 22 March 2012, 7:00-9:59pm.
- “closed books”
- format to be discussed
- cumulative

Additional rules

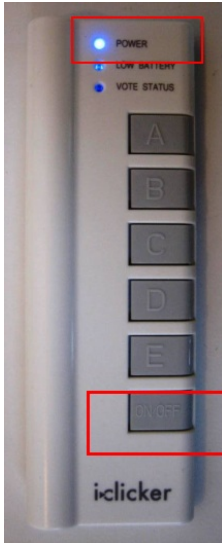
- You must observe the University's Policy on Integrity of Scholarship, which can be found at <http://senate.ucsd.edu/AcademicIntegrity/AcademicIntegrity.htm>.
- Make-up exams (for both midterm and final) will only be given under the most severe circumstances. The student who wishes to write a make-up exam must inform me (by phone or email) ahead of the time when the exam takes place. In order to qualify for a make-up exam, appropriate evidence of the most severe circumstances must be produced by the student. I will determine, in consultation with the student, what qualifies as appropriate evidence.

Clickers: i>clickers



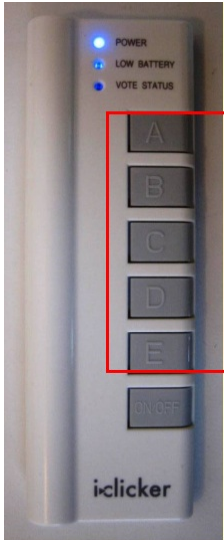
- available at the [Price Center](#) bookstore for \$46.75 (new) or \$35.10 (used)
- You will need to bring the clickers to class, starting today.
- For more information, visit <http://acms.ucsd.edu/units/mediaservices/clickers.shtml>.

Basic operation



- Turn on the clicker by pressing the bottom “On/Off” button.
- ⇒ A blue “Power” light will appear at the top of the remote.

Basic operation (cont'd)



- When I ask a question in class (and start the timer), select A, B, C, D, or E as your vote.

How do you know your vote was received?



- Check your “Vote Status” Light:
 - **Green light** = your vote was sent AND received.
 - **Red flashing light** = you need to vote again.
- Not sure you saw the light? Just vote again.
- Want to change your vote? You can vote again as long as the timer is still going.

Registering your i>clicker



- In order to earn points for your i>clicker responses, you must register your i>clicker online (but don't worry, you will still get the points from before registration).
- For this, you will need (your name), your PID number (starting with an 'A'), and your **clicker ID** (located on the back of your clicker, below the scan code).

- Go to <http://www.iclicker.com/registration>, fill in the required fields, and click ENTER.
- Register your clicker by **19 January 2012**.
- Before using a new clicker for the first time, pull the plastic tab out of the battery compartment.
- Check out <http://www.iclicker.com> for FAQs.
- Email support@iclicker.com or phone **866-209-5698** for help.