

Examination in General Relativity, spring 2020

The course content will be examined in two ways: (1) home assignments spread out during the course period and (2) a final oral exam at the end of the course. In order to pass the course, one has to pass the assignment part and the oral part separately. The final grade will then consist of 60% assignment part and 40% oral part. See details below.

Home assignments

There will be 6–8 sets of home assignments. In some cases, though not always, these will be built upon, or slight modifications of, problems in the book (Hartle). They will be announced at least one week before the hand in deadline. Points will be given for the assignments based on correctness as well as clearness of presentation. *In order to get full credit for your solutions you have to be pedagogical and clear enough that it is unambiguous for the reader that you have understood what you are doing.* In order to pass this part of the examination, you have to collect at least 40% of the total number of points for all assignments during the course.

Oral exam

Students who has passed the assignment part of the course can proceed to the oral exam. This will be conducted individually during around 30 minutes (probably via the webb). The starting point of the examination will be two questions from a set of eight questions that will be made available May 4. The examination will start with that you answer the question, and then there will be follow up questions and a discussion of related concepts. The skill being tested during the oral examination is not ability to solve problems or detailed knowledge of formulas or expressions, but rather broad conceptual understanding of the fundamental concepts in the course. In order to get a passing grade in the course, one has to pass the oral exam. The oral exam will take place sometime during the period June 8 – June 12.