

Examination in General Relativity, spring 2019

The course content will be examined in three ways, two of which will be mandatory (1 and 2 below) and one of which is not mandatory but may contribute to a higher grade (3 below).

- 1. Written exam (June 5).** The problems at the exam will *all* be from the set of problems from the book recommended on the "Courseplan". The course book (Hartle) is allowed aid at the exam, as long as there are no added notes in it (other than corrections or underlines). Points will be given for well explained solutions, not for a correct answer standing alone. In order to get a passing grade in the course, one has to pass the written exam. The maximum number of points at the exam will be 24, and the lowest passing grade (E) will require 12 points. When passed, 60% of the final grade will come from the written exam.
- 2. Oral exam (June 12 – June 14).** Students who has passed the written exam can proceed to the oral exam. This will be conducted individually during around 30 minutes. The starting point of the examination will be one or two questions from a set of questions that will be made available May 16. The examination will start with that the student answers 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. When passed, 40% of the final grade will come from the oral exam.

(If you cannot take the oral exam in the period June 12 – Juni 14, contact me, and we will find an alternative date.)
- 3. Bonus test I and II (April 15 and May 16).** The bonus tests are short tests, held during class hours, around 40 minutes each. They test basic conceptual knowledge, like definitions, basic ideas, acquaintance with the formalism of GR, et cetera. They are not mandatory, but they can boost the grade by providing bonus points for the written exam. Full bonus on both bonus tests will give 4 extra points at the exam.