Additional Physics 128BL Laboratory Requirements

This course will be structured differently than last quarter. Just like in winter, all students will complete three labs throughout the course of the quarter; however, labs will now be run in three-week cycles instead of two-week cycles. The first two weeks of any given cycle will be for laboratory work, with a third week given solely to write your report. Laboratory work may be conducted during the third week only with prior permission, and is not recommended. Reports will be due on Friday of the third week of each lab cycle. Extensions will only be granted with prior permission and only with a damn good reason.

Due to some confusion last quarter about what was required for some of the labs, a more direct interaction with the TAs will now be necessary. By the end of the first week of each lab, you and your partner must find the TA who is grading your experiment and give a satisfactory explanation of the theory behind the lab, and demonstrate an adequate ability to use the equipment necessary to complete it. This will only take a few minutes, and can probably be done on the first day if the lab manual is read ahead of time. At this point, we will give you a brief outline of the topics we want you to focus your effort on in writing the lab, and we will attempt to show you any subtleties in operation of the equipment.

By the end of the second week, you and your partner must again find the TA grading your lab for one final check-off. This time, you must present the results of your experiment and discuss the topics that you plan to cover in the lab report. At this time, we will not be grading you on quality of data or anything like that, but are keeping track of where you stand and making sure you have a good understanding of the lab prior to writing your report.

Failure to meet with us at the end of the first and second week will result in the loss of a FULL letter grade (A? B) on the final lab report. A list of the times and alternate locations of each TA is posted in the main room.