

Course Syllabi

PHYS 451. Empirical Foundations of the Standard Model (3).

1. Introduction

Relevant scales of length, time, mass, and densities

Review of quantum mechanics and special relativity

Relativistic kinematics; phase-space parameterizations

Nuclear mass defects and binding energies; Q-values in nuclear decays and reactions

Theory of decaying states; Wigner-Weisskopf formalism

Collision theory, the S-matrix, unitarity, in & out states, phase shifts,

Feynman diagrams

Klein-Gordon and Dirac equations; gamma-matrix technology

2. Principles of Particle Accelerators

Contemporary colliders and fixed target machines

Beam acceleration and optics

3. Particle Detection

Passage of radiation through matter

Proportional counters, time projection chambers, calorimeters

Detector component objectives and principle

Contemporary accelerator and non-accelerator detectors

4. Gauge bosons, Leptons, and Quarks as Elemental Constituents

Boson and Fermions properties; spin-statistics theorem

Flavor designations

Families

Gauge invariance and its consequences

5. Measures of Particle Interactions

Fluxes, luminosities, collision cross sections

Lifetimes, decay rates, branching ratios

6. Empirical Characterization of the Fundamental Interactions

Electromagnetic interactions of charged particles

Strong interactions of hadrons, the quark composite model of hadrons,

Quark-gluon model, hadronization, duality diagrams

Weak interactions, nature of the boson-fermion couplings; neutral currents

7. Symmetries and Conservation Laws of the Fundamental Interactions

Space-time symmetries; intrinsic parities

Particle-antiparticle symmetry; charge conjugation, CPT

Internal Symmetries

Fermionic symmetries

Broken symmetries

8. Discrete Symmetry Properties of the Conjugate Neutral Mesons and CP Violation

Decay eigenstates of K and B ; the decay and mass matrices, unitarian conditions

Regeneration and strangeness oscillations, box and penguin diagrams

Consequences of CPT and CP invariance and noninvariance

CP violation parameters

Superweak theory

9. Weak Decays, Quark Mixings, and the CKM matrix

Diagonalization of the mass matrix

Wolfenstein parameterization

10. The Nature of the Neutrino

Defining properties and the distinction between Dirac and Majorana neutrinos

Evidence for the number of light neutrinos

The question of neutrino masses; why so small?

Solar neutrino problem

Atmospheric neutrino problem

Neutrinos and the various dark matter problems

Neutrino oscillations and the MSW effect