PHYS 1402L/2426L External Lab Assignment

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For lab this week, your assignment is to find an academic research article in science or engineering that is about materials that are of interest to you for your career or involving physics. It can be about any topic in the sciences that is of interest to you, but it must be an academic, peer-reviewed research article.

Lab will meet in the library with a research librarian. The instructor or teaching assistant will meet you or give you directions to the proper room in the library. You are required to attend this meeting. If you are not on the roll for the meeting, your lab will not be accepted the next week. The research librarian will give a presentation and help you find appropriate articles. You should find at least one example article by the end of the meeting and check it with your instructor or teaching assistant.

You may use another article than the one you find in lab if you later find one that is more interesting, but remember it should be an academic research article NOT an article from a popular magazine or Wikipedia, etc. The best way to find these is to use the academic journals available through the library databases at

- http://infoguides.wtamu.edu/databases, or the specific help for this lab at:
- http://infoguides.wtamu.edu/physicslabs,
- or in the library itself.

You will have to sign in if off campus. The folks at the reference section of the library are very helpful for this, and they are over there to help you. Be sure your article is an academic peer-reviewed research article. Again, the reference desk at the library can help with this.

Write a brief summary in your own words of the article and why it interested you (a few paragraphs). Do not be intimidated by articles that you don't fully understand (this is common even among professionals!) Include a complete citation for the article: authors, journal, article title, volume numbers, pages, etc. Your citation format should include complete journal titles. Include any widely recognized electronic article identifier, such as a DOI (Digital Object Identifier) if it is available. Check with the librarian if you are not sure about this. Note: a link to the library database or a DOI alone is not acceptable, you must include a complete human-readable citation.

Don't turn in a copy of the article, just your summary and citation. Your instructor will be available at regular lab times if you have questions. This is due at your lab time next week.

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