PHYS 590 Final Report Marking Template

1. Accomplishments in Independent Research

Needs Improvement	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent
>5	5	6	7	8
• Limited progress on project. • Project has not extended beyond previous work; no original research demonstrated. • Work lacked in initiative and/or insightfulness.		• Good progress was made on project. • Project has extended previous work and significant original research results were achieved. Note that where progress was hindered by unexpected research developments despite diligent effort, the student should receive the majority of the credit. • Work was insightful, personal "ownership" of the project clearly demonstrated. • Student clearly took initiative and "drove" the project rather than just following instructions.		

2. Report Structure and Quality of Writing

Needs Improvement	Developing	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
1	2	3	4	5
• Organization is clumsy or mechanical, no logical flow between report components. • Project methodology poorly described, essential elements not clearly distinguished. • Language obscures meaning/is unclear. • Excessive jargon use. • Grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors are numerous and distracting. Readability is limited. • Report does not observe rules for length and/or layout. • Tables and figures not relevant and/or are missing components and/or are illegible. • Sources not cited or not used correctly. • Abstract is absent, too long, or does not capture the essence of the report • Introduction is absent, contains too much detail, or does not describe the motivation, objective, approach, and/or larger context of the project • Conclusion is absent or underdeveloped .		• Well structured, with logical flow between report components. • Body of knowledge thoroughly, but concisely, discussed. • Project methodology well described and context given. • The report correctly identifies and focuses on the most relevant information, weeding out the less relevant material. • The report is easily understood by a scientifically literate university audience. • Language is eloquent and clearly and effectively communicates ideas. • Only minor typographical errors. • Thesis is of prescribed length and format. • Tables and figures relevant and legible with appropriate and complete axes, labels, legends and captions. • Sources and citations are adequate and used correctly. • Abstract clearly and concisely presents the essential elements and key results contained in the paper. • Introduction clearly and concisely describes the motivation, objective, approach, and larger context of the project • Conclusion clearly summarizes the results of the work and any qualifications, and describes the significance of the work and linkages to future work and broader context.	

3. Scientific Understanding

Needs Improvement	Developing	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
1	2	3	4	5
• Report shows poor understanding of subject matter, does not properly explain key elements of the project. • Report shows a narrow view of the topic being investigated. • Project described/understood at a mechanistic level, with limited description/understanding of the scientific justification for the steps being undertaken. • Body of knowledge inadequately discussed. • Physics issues and challenges not well identified or discussed.			• Report shows excellent grasp of the science and describes the essential elements of the project very well. • Physical motivation for key project methodologies well understood and explained. • Report demonstrates a good understanding of the field in the broader sense. • Physics issues and challenges identified and understood.	

4. Examiner's Discretion:

Examiners may add up to an additional two marks to bring the overall project mark to the appropriate level. For reference, Queen's grade descriptors are:

Mark (/20) Greater Than:	Letter Grade	Descriptor
18	A+	Exceptional
17	A	Outstanding
16	A-	Excellent
15.4	B+	Very Good
14.6	B	Good
14	B-	Reasonably Good
13.4	C+	Acceptable
12	C, C-	Minimally Acceptable
10	D+, D, D-	Unsatisfactory Pass
<10	F	Fail