Physical Systems and Applied Mathematics, 2018-19
Learning Community Responsibilities – Fall Quarter

In this upper-division science program, we will build on previous studies of mathematics and physics in order to deepen our understanding of each with emphasis on illuminating their connections. Each of us will bring unique background and goals to our studies, and it is our collective goal to build on those strengths at the same time as we stretch our learning in new directions. These goals and the activities we undertake to reach them will support students' work toward meeting program-specific learning goals and the Six Expectations of an Evergreen graduate. In order to achieve these goals, the faculty ask you to agree to take on certain responsibilities involved in building a learning community.

Building a Learning Community

We are excited about both the synergistic ways in which our principal subject areas will interact with one another and the collaborative learning community we will build through supporting each other in assimilating this challenging material.

In an Evergreen learning community, we are all co-learners with many opportunities to learn from each other, and we all have a responsibility to cultivate favorable conditions for collaborative learning. Community is a state of being in the world that requires our attention and work to achieve. In a learning community, we collaborate to expand our knowledge and abilities. Collaborative learning develops a set of skills and experiences that will equip you to deal with a broad array of situations in future learning and work of almost any kind.

We want to explicitly acknowledge that each of us brings different strengths and resources to this work, and one of the best features of learning communities is that we can all benefit from each other's strengths. You may have previously experienced studying math in particular as a solitary or isolated activity; you may have even rather liked that about it. However, in PSAM, we will we take learning in community with one another as a serious part of our work, which will involve listening closely to each other and actively attending to each other's needs as we learn. That, too, will pay dividends that may be hard to anticipate but are very real.

Success in a learning community does not mean that we all agree with each other all the time, or that conflicts never emerge. It means that we acknowledge each other as human beings, take delight in the variety of perspectives we bring to the table, and seek to address conflicts and differences of opinion with a spirit of generosity and flexibility.

Responsibilities of Members of the Program Learning Community

A successful learning community requires its members to fulfill responsibilities to themselves and to others. It is our goal to actively create and support a bias-free classroom. All students have a right to be heard, respected, and valued. We expect students and faculty to improve their attentiveness to the dynamics of socio-cultural privilege and how those dynamics may impact student learning and the classroom environment. We expect all participants in this program to be socially responsible and enter into the program in a spirit of goodwill.

Faculty share these responsibilities:
- Plan and implement the program and communicate any changes made to the syllabus.
- Provide timely and thoughtful responses to student work.
- Make time available for individual conferences with students during Evaluation week and as needed.
- Make every effort to notify students when they are at risk of losing credit, including written notification in week 5.

- Handle all disputes in a spirit of respect and goodwill.
- Interact collaboratively and professionally with students and colleagues.
- Actively participate in faculty seminars and planning meetings.
- Write formal evaluations of student achievement at the end of the quarter.

Students share these responsibilities:
- Engage actively with the program. This includes coming to class on time and prepared to participate in all activities.
- Complete and submit all assignments on time according to submission guidelines. Assignments must be submitted in the appropriate format to be considered for evaluation. Students should not expect faculty to read or comment on work received late, nor should they expect to receive credit for late work.
- Maintain a portfolio of all work, assessments, and evaluations.
- Include a self-evaluation in your portfolio for each quarter and update your Academic Statement in fall quarter.
- Keep up. Check your college e-mail and the program website regularly for information about the program. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to find out from another student what you have missed and to catch up on all assignments and announcements, including changes to the program syllabus.
- Be proactive and communicate.
  - If you have questions or concerns about your work or the program, contact faculty directly.
  - Grievance: Should an unresolved disagreement occur between a student and the faculty team, students have the right to follow the normal college grievance procedures described in the Student Rights and Responsibilities section on the college website (see http://www.evergreen.edu/studentaffairs/rightsandresponsibilities).
  - Students who require accommodations for academic work should contact Access Services (ph. (360) 867-6348/TTY: (360) 867-6834). Information about such accommodations is confidential and protected by legal and ethical considerations.
- Engage in self-care. If you become ill, stay home and recover quickly rather than extending your illness by over-exertion. While protecting your privacy, let the faculty know by e-mail as soon as possible when you miss class because of illness.
- Approach all program work with integrity. If faculty detect cheating, plagiarism, or other lapses of academic integrity, they will discuss the issue with the student and may report the instance for the Campus Grievance Officer to pursue further. Consequences may include loss of some or all credit, removal from the program, and, in extreme cases, expulsion from Evergreen. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to:
  - Copying solutions from a classmate without citing them and making it clear which work is theirs and which is yours.
  - Copying *any* material from the internet for inclusion in your work without citing the author and context clearly.
  - Copying text, images, or ideas from a book, magazine, journal, essay, website, etc. by anyone else without clear citation of the author or original context.
- Conduct program activities in a responsible manner. This includes:
  - Cleaning up after yourself so that overworked janitorial staff or others don't have to do so.
  - Following and respecting all lab safety protocols and requirements, including safe and appropriate use of equipment, careful attention to safety rules, and appropriate and timely clean-up.
  - Using College equipment, facilities, and other shared resources responsibly.
  - Acting in compliance with all relevant College policies.

- With regard to general conduct, please read and follow the College's statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities (www.evergreen.edu/studentaffairs/rightsandresponsibilities.htm) and the Student Conduct Code (https://www.evergreen.edu/policy/studentconductcode).
- Write an evaluation of each faculty on exiting the program.

All members of the program share these responsibilities:
- Encouraging the free exchange of ideas in a respectful and civil manner. This includes showing respect for others who are speaking or listening. For example, talking, whispering, text messaging, cell phone ringing, or inappropriate use of portable computers is disruptive to the speaker and to those listening; turn off and store all electronic devices unless relevant for class activities.
- Keeping confidential any personal information others may reveal during program discussions.
- Recognizing that no one is exempt from the dynamics of privilege and oppression; striving to be aware of how our actions and words affect others; and communicating honestly to others about how their actions affect us.
- Responding civilly and productively when others communicate to us how our words or actions have affected them.
- Abiding by the Evergreen Social Contract (http://www.evergreen.edu/about/social), the Campus Sexual Harassment and Sexual Misconduct Policy (http://www.evergreen.edu/policy/sexual-harassment-misconduct), and other college policies that regulate community members' behaviors.

Repeated disruption of the learning environment by failing to honor these responsibilities and the spirit from which they arise may result in expulsion from the program.

Staying in the program beyond week 1 constitutes your agreement to abide by the policies outlined in this and the other program documents, including content on the program website.