

Dear Student,

I bid you a warm welcome to the course Physics 125-1: General Physics for the Integrated Science Program (ISP). I will be your teaching assistant (TA) for the fall quarter in the academic year 2021-2022. Below is some useful information.

**TA info** • My name is Kaan (pronounced /[kaan](#)/) and feel free to address me by my first name. I am a second-year PhD student. I am working with Prof. Frank Petriello in the field of phenomenological particle physics. I have TA experience in general physics laboratory and particle physics at the undergrad level and in quantum mechanics and advanced particle physics at the graduate level. It will be a whole new experience for me to TA this general physics course for the advanced; *ergo*, I feel certain that I will develop more teaching skills as we go and that I have a lot to learn from you. Having said that, if I don't know something particular that you are asking, I will tell so; however, I will consider it my homework and get back to you with answer within 24 hours.

**TA duties** • My TA duties are to deliver the discussion sessions, help you with your homework through office hours and via email, and grade your homework and exam papers.

**Discussion sessions** • As far as I know, I will be solving some problems for you in the class time on Fridays and this will be our discussion section. The format of the discussion sections is expected to be settled in the first week.

**Office hours** • My office hours are 14:00–17:00 on Fridays starting from the second week of the classes until and including the reading period. It will be online via Zoom with the meeting ID [220 209 9715](#) and password WWRPFD; however, it will not be recorded. I am planning to start the sessions at the indicated time and see to have your questions. Therefore, I am expecting you to come prepared with questions. The attendance to office hours are highly encouraged. You don't have to stick around until the end of each office hour; rather, you can come and go as you have questions.

**Communication policy** • My preferred channel of communication is via email at [ksimsek@u.northwestern.edu](mailto:ksimsek@u.northwestern.edu); click on the link for more info. You can send me an email about all your questions related to the course at any time, including weekends. You can type your question or, if you get stuck in your calculations, you can take a clear photo of your work (or convert your notes to pdf if you are using a tablet) and send it to me, clearly indicating where and why you get stuck — as long as it does not violate Prof. Gabrielse's can't-ask-about-this rules. I will respond to you on the same day.

Thank you for your time and attention. I hope we will have a spectacular quarter.

Cheers,  
Kaan