

Dear Colleague,

I bid you a warm welcome to the course Physics 412-1: Quantum Mechanics. I will be your teaching assistant (TA) for the fall quarter in the academic year 2022-2023. Below is some useful information.

**TA info** • My name is Kaan (pronounced /ka'an/). I am a third-year PhD student. I am working with Prof. Frank Petriello in the field of theoretical particle physics. I have TA experience in general physics and particle physics at the undergrad level and in quantum mechanics and advanced particle physics at the graduate level. It is always a whole new experience for me to TA a new course; *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 within a reasonable amount of time.

**TA duties** • My TA duties are to conduct the discussion sessions, help you with your questions through, and grade your homework papers. TBA more.

**Discussion sessions** • TBA. But to say the least, discussion notes will be uploaded for future reference. The current schedule of discussion classes is Thursdays at 3pm for one hour. The discussion sessions start on the second week. If there is a substantial amount of requests, e.g. before the exams, then I can gladly arrange extra discussion sessions once we agree on the time. Let me worry about the location.

**Office hours** • I am not a fan of doing office hours; thus, I will not offer a specific time window for us to your questions. Keep reading.

**Communication policy** • My preferred channel of communication is via email at [ksimsek@u.northwestern.edu](mailto:ksimsek@u.northwestern.edu) (Avoid Canvas when trying to reach out to me as the built-in messaging system of Canvas basically sucks.). You can send me an email about all your questions and comments at any time, including weekends. You can type your question or take a clear photo of your calculations and send it to me, clearly indicating what seems to worry you. I will respond to you in a timely manner.

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

cheers,  
kaan