

Seminar “Relativistic Heavy Ion Physics”: Some Guidelines

August 16, 2024

Welcome to the 2024-25 seminar on Relativistic Heavy Ion Physics at TU Darmstadt. This term we will learn about ‘Interaction of High Energy Particles with Matter, and Detectors’, both from a theoretical and experimental point of view.

Before we start, the organizers want to share a few details about how the seminars will be run.

The language of discussion will be English. Each week (except the organizing week), a student will present a topic, leading to a discussion. Every student is expected to attend every seminar, both before and after their own presentation. Attendance and participation are part of the grade, though your individual presentation is the most important part.

Each student will be assigned a tutor to help them prepare. Please meet the tutor well in advance of your presentation – at least 4 weeks ahead is a good guideline, though this may not be possible for the first 1 or 2 presenters. The tutor can then outline the topic and help you find literature to prepare your presentation. After you have read the literature and learned about your subject, but before you prepare the presentation itself, meet your tutor to discuss an outline for the presentation. Then prepare a “rough draft” of the presentation, which you need to finish well ahead (1-2 weeks before your presentation), so you have time to share it with your tutor and make any needed changes. It is usually a good idea to do a practice presentation of this draft to your tutor, to identify problems or changes which still need to be made. Leave enough time to implement the changes before your presentation.

We schedule 90 minutes for each presentation, but this includes generous time for discussion, which is often lively. So please prepare 45 - 60 minutes of material, which typically means around 30 slides. Be prepared to be interrupted and asked questions. Indeed, often the questions start very early in the seminar and continue through to the end. You are also encouraged to ask questions at your fellow students’ seminars; participation is part of the grade and questions are a good way to stay engaged and to make sure you understand the presentation properly.

After the seminar you will receive feedback from your tutor, not only on the content but also on the style of your presentation. We would also appreciate any feedback you have for us.