THE SCHOLARLY PAPER

The scholarly paper is a review or historical summary of an area of research in which the student is interested. The subject matter can be based on course material, research or personal interest. The paper should be written at a level for a general audience/reader who has a background in science.

The following are guidelines for the preparation of the Scholarly paper:

1. It is expected that the Scholarly Paper will be undertaken after passing the Qualifying Examination and once a research advisor and research topic are decided upon.
2. The Scholarly Paper is a requirement for Ph.D. candidacy and the non-thesis M.S. Degree. Students must be admitted to candidacy a minimum of six months prior to the Ph.D. oral thesis examination.
3. The Scholarly Paper must be approved by two faculty members. Typically these are the student’s research advisor and a member of the student’s Ph.D. Examining Committee. Normally the Director will also read the paper.
4. Scholarly Papers are normally 15 to 20 pages in length including figures and references.
5. The paper is not to be a collaborative effort. It is to be the work of the student alone.
6. The paper is not to be a duplication of papers prepared for formal courses, however special problems and independent study courses may be used to complete the paper.

ORAL PRESENTATION

The Scholarly Paper Examining Committee consists of at least two faculty members, who will read the scholarly paper and attend the oral presentation.

The paper should provide an informative review of the research topic selected by the candidate in consultation with his/her academic and research advisors. The bibliography is a particularly important part of the paper and should include the most significant references to the topic.

The length of the paper is expected to be approximately 20 double space pages (12-point font) with 1-inch margins.

The presentation is to last approximately one hour and can be part of regularly scheduled seminar series such as the Informal Statistical Mechanics Seminar or the Nonlinear Dynamics Seminar. Two faculty must be present and there should be sufficient time for questions and discussion.