**Rubric for assessing physics students written lab reports**

1: Outstanding

Reports in this category would satisfy the standards that would be expected for a research journal. They would be extremely well written and organized. They could be used as examples for other students to follow.

2: Exemplary

Reports in this category would be well written and well organized. They would come close to satisfying the standards of a research journal. But to actually satisfy those standards they would require some improvement.

3: Very Good

Reports in this category would be acceptable for lab reports for a class. They would be reasonably well written and organized. But they would require a significant amount of improvement to satisfy the standards of a research journal. **Most reports are expected to be in this category.**

4: Acceptable

Reports in this category would be well enough written and well enough organized to get the main points across. But, even as a lab report for a class, improvement would be desirable.

5: Poor

Reports in this category would have too many flaws or be too incomplete to accurately describe the methods used and results obtained in the lab. One or more of the following would likely apply: the writing is so poor in quality that parts of it are incomprehensible; major gaps in reporting and/or interpretation are present; the student does not demonstrate an adequate understanding of the methodology of the experiment or the interpretation of the results.
Rubric for assessing physics honors theses

1: Exemplary

An honors thesis in this category would satisfy the standards that would be expected for a doctoral dissertation although it would obviously not be expected to be nearly as substantive as a doctoral dissertation. It would be extremely well written and organized. It could be used as an example for other students to follow.

2: Very Good.

An honors thesis in this category would be well written and well organized. It would come close to satisfying the standards for a doctoral dissertation. But to actually satisfy those standards it would require some improvement.

3: Acceptable

An honors thesis in this category would be acceptable. It would be reasonably well written and organized. But it would require a significant amount of improvement to satisfy the standards for a doctoral dissertation. Most honors theses are expected to be in this category.

4: Marginal

An honors thesis in this category would be well enough written and well enough organized to get the main points across. But improvement would be desirable even if it is not required.

5: Poor

No student whose honors thesis that falls into this category should receive honors unless the thesis is revised enough that it falls into one of the above categories. An honors thesis in this category would have too many flaws or be too incomplete to accurately describe the methods used and results obtained. One or more of the following would likely apply: the writing is so poor in quality that parts of it are incomprehensible; major gaps in reporting and/or interpretation are present; the student does not demonstrate an adequate understanding of the methodology of the research or the interpretation of the results.