Astro/Physics 224

Origin and Evolution of the Universe Wir

Winter 2008

QUESTIONNAIRE

Name:		Taking for credit?
Department:	Year:	Status:
Email address:		UCSC phone number: 459

Your background for this course

1. Please list briefly the most advanced astronomy courses you have taken and the corresponding instructor(s) and textbook(s) (e.g., undergrad intro survey/Abell, senior survey/Shu, grad galaxies/Faber/Binney&Tremaine):

2. Please list any courses you have taken/books you have studied on general relativity (e.g., Schutz, Hartle, Carroll, Weinberg, MTW):

3. Please list briefly the most advanced quantum physics course you have taken (e.g., junior QM, grad intro QM, intro QFT, advanced QFT):

4. Please list any courses you have taken/books you have studied on particle physics (e.g., undergrad Intro/Perkins, grad Particles/Seiden, grad Weak Interactions/Georgi):

5. Please list any other material you have studied that might be relevant:

COURSE TOPICS PREFERENCES

The following topics are roughly in order of increasing use of speculative particle physics theory. Relative emphasis on each topic in this course will depend on the level of student interest. Please indicate your personal interest in each topic with ++, +, 0, -, or -- (greatest to least interest):

_____ Big bang nucleosynthesis and the Boltzmann equation: baryon, neutrino, and WIMP abundances

_____ Structure formation: spectra and evolution of density inhomogeneities; cold dark matter theory and variants

_____ Cold dark matter theory vs. data: galaxies, clusters, and large scale structure; semianalytic model and simulations

_____ Dark matter halo structure and substructure; angular momentum issues; issues in hydrodynamics, star formation, and feedback

- _____ CMB anisotropies, weak lensing, and other probes of inhomogeneities
- _____ Inflation and dark energy/"quintessence"
- _____ Phase transitions in the early universe: walls, strings, and monopoles
- _____ Baryogenesis
- _____ Particle physics of dark matter candidates: Axions, WIMPs
- _____ Toward the Planck epoch: multiverse theories, string cosmology, etc.

List any other topics you would like included

Your term project topic

You should start thinking about the topics you might work on for your term project (to be presented as a talk in class or during a separate session toward the end of the quarter). The topic should be directly connected with the course, such as the ages of globular clusters, or theories of large scale structure with decaying particles. Please list one or two tentative topics you might consider: