Assignment for Thursday, May 26

Email me by 5 PM Thursday, May 26, the title, and a brief description of, the book that you plan to review for your final report. Then, bring the book with you to class – if I am unfamiliar with it, I may want to have a look!

Assignment for Tuesday, May 31

The reading assignments for the last two weeks of the course are purposefully light, so that you may concentrate effort on preparing for the Final Exam, and completing the final book review. For this week, the short *Afterward* from David Griffith’s book is all that is formally assigned; if you want a bit more, I encourage you to partake in the optional reading assignments.

- **Contemporary Writing:** Griffiths, from *Introduction to Quantum Mechanics*.
  For last week, you read from the first pages of Griffith’s classic text on quantum mechanics. Now, read from the last pages. It covers the essentials of what we covered in class, a bit more detail in some areas, a bit less in others. Take special note of how carefully he defines what is meant by a *measurement*.

- **Optional Reading:** David Harrison, from *The Stern-Gerlach Experiment, Electron Spin, and Correlation Experiments*.
  A well-written summary of the classic Stern-Gerlach experiment on electron “spin”, including an extension to the discussion of correlation experiments. This reading can be found at: [http://www.upscale.utoronto.ca/GeneralInterest/Harrison/SternGerlach/SternGerlach.html](http://www.upscale.utoronto.ca/GeneralInterest/Harrison/SternGerlach/SternGerlach.html)
  Or, through a Link at the course home page.

- **Optional Reading:** Gary Felder, from *Spooky Action at a Distance: An Explanation of Bell’s Theorem*.
  A description of Bell’s inequality, and an experiment to show that the Copenhagen interpretation of quantum mechanics is correct. Similar to our class discussion. This reading can be found at: [http://www2.ncsu.edu:8010/unity/lockers/users/f/felder/public/kenny/papers/bell.html](http://www2.ncsu.edu:8010/unity/lockers/users/f/felder/public/kenny/papers/bell.html)
  Or, through a Link at the course home page.

**Weekly Thought Question**

Reflect on all that we have covered in this class, and come up with a single question that you think would make an excellent Final Exam essay question. Think creatively and broadly. Then, briefly respond to the question. As promised, one of the questions that are turned in will appear as one of the two essay questions on the actual Final Exam.

(Do we really need to use a cat?)