Course Unit Descriptor

Study Programme: Physics

Course Unit Title: Qualitative Methods in Physics

Course Unit Code: F18KMF

Name of Lecturer(s): Full Professor Maja Stojanović

Type and Level of Studies: Bachelor of Science in Physics / Master of Science in Teaching Physics

Course Status (compulsory/elective): Elective

Semester (winter/summer): Winter

Language of instruction: English

Mode of course unit delivery (face-to-face/distance learning): Face-to-face

Number of ECTS Allocated: 6

Prerequisites: None

### **Course Aims:**

Introduce students to the possibility of obtaining results without the use of rigorous mathematical formalisms.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

After completion of the course student should have developed:

- General skills: reading professional literature, analysis of different solutions and select the most appropriate solutions, creativity

- Subject-specific skills: the ability of independent formulation of model of physical phenomena, ability of dimensional analysis of the problem; using symmetry of problems to give a qualitative explanation; estimation of order of magnitude of various effects.

## Syllabus:

Theory

The difference between quantitative and qualitative approaches in the exact sciences. The formation of models. Examples: solid body, ideal gas, Lorentz approach to electrodynamics. Dimensional analysis. An elementary approach. Pi-theorem. Fluid Mechanics. Application of symmetry to simplify the account. The law of conservation. Application of the theory of groups. Analytical properties. Example: the theory of dielectric constant. Analytical properties of the field theory. Analogies in physics: the exponential growth and decline, saturation, oscillations.

Practice

Computational exercises and seminars.

# **Required Reading:**

1. M.Gitterman and V.Halpern: Qualitative Analysis of Physical Problems, Academic Press, New York (1981)

Weekly Contact Hours:	Lectures: 3	Practical work: 2
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# **Teaching Methods:**

Theoretical classes are performed using modern methods of presentation, with the active participation of students, and preparation and presentation of two seminar work.

## Knowledge Assessment (maximum of 100 points): 100

Pre-exam obligations	points	Final exam	points
Active class		written exam	30
participation			

Practical work		oral exam	30
Preliminary exam(s)			
Seminar(s)	40		