Instructor: Thomas Vojta
Office: 204 Physics, phone: 341-4793, email: vojtat@mst.edu

Office hours: The official office hours are Wednesday 2pm – 3pm, but you can drop in any time, or email me for an appointment.

Course home page: http://www.mst.edu/~vojtat/class_5413/class_5413.html

Class time: 3:00 – 3:50 pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Room 127 Physics

Prerequisites: Math 204, Phys 24 or Phys 25

Recommended texts: “Chaos and nonlinear dynamics” by Robert C. Hilborn, Oxford University Press, 2000
“Nonlinear dynamics and chaos” by Steven H. Strogatz, Perseus, 1994

Projects: The course is project based. In class, we will usually discuss the basic concepts of a particular topic. I will then assign projects which further explore the material, including applications to specific systems, computer simulations and student talks. Some of the projects will be team projects.

When working on the projects, discussions among colleagues are allowed and encouraged. However, the reports you hand in should be based on your efforts and not that of a group. For team projects, each team can submit a joint report, but you must explain who did what part of the work. You should document any reference material which you directly use.

Grade: Your grade will be based entirely on the projects. There will be seven regular projects worth 100 pts and a final project worth 200 pts. The lowest regular score will be dropped (the final score cannot be dropped). Thus, a total of 800 points can be earned.

The relation between performance and grade will be the standard one: $A \geq 90\% > B \geq 80\% > C \geq 70\%$. The boundaries between the grades may be revised downwards (i.e., to the students benefit) depending upon the judgement of the instructor, but will not be revised upwards.

Disability support service: If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, you are strongly encouraged to meet with me early in the semester. You will need to request that the Disability Services staff send a letter to me verifying your disability and specifying the accommodation you will need before I can arrange your accommodation.

Academic Dishonesty: You should behave as responsible scholars and scientists. Academic dishonesty such as plagiarism, cheating, or sabotage is unethical and unacceptable and will be dealt with accordingly. For more detail see p. 27 of Student Academic Regulations 2012-2014 which are available at http://registrar.mst.edu/academicregs/index.html

Emergency exits: Please familiarize yourself with the classroom emergency exists shown on the egress maps posted on-line at: http://registrar.mst.edu/links/egress/.

Complaints: should be directed to Dr. Waddill (102 Physics, waddill@mst.edu)