HPS/PHIL 687 Fall 2003 Historical Foundations of the Quantum Theory

Required Readings:

Topic: Readings:

Planck and black-body radiation. Martin Klein. "Planck, Entropy, and Quanta, 1901-

1906." The Natural Philosopher 1 (1963), 83-108.

Einstein and the photo-electric effect. Martin Klein. "Einstein's First Paper on Quanta."

The Natural Philosopher 2 (1963), 59-86.

The Bohr model of the atom and spectral series. Max Jammer. "Regularities in Line Spectra";

"Bohr's Theory of the Hydrogen Atom." In *The Conceptual Development of Quantum Mechanics*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1966, pp. 62-88.

The Bohr-Sommerfeld "old" quantum theory; Max Jammer. "The Older Quantum Theory." In Einstein on transition probabilities.

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The Bohr-Kramers-Slater theory. Max Jammer. "The Transition to Quantum

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1966, pp. 157-195.

Bose-Einstein statistics. Don Howard. "Nicht sein kann was nicht sein

darf,' or the Prehistory of EPR, 1909-1935: Einstein's Early Worries about the Quantum Mechanics of Composite Systems." In Sixty-Two Years of Uncertainty: Historical, Philosophical, and Physical Inquiries into the Foundations of Quantum Mechanics. Arthur Miller, ed. New

York: Plenum, 1990, pp. 61-111.

Schrödinger and wave mechanics; Heisenberg and

matrix mechanics.

Max Jammer. "The Formation of Quantum Mechanics." In *The Conceptual Development of Quantum Mechanics*. New York: McGraw-Hill,

1966, pp. 196-280.

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Albert Einstein, Boris Podolsky, and Nathan Rosen. "Can Quantum-mechanical Description of Physical Reality Be Considered Complete?" Physical Review 47 (1935), 777-780.

Niels Bohr. "Can Quantum-mechanical Description of Physical Reality Be Considered Complete?" *Physical Review* 48 (1935), 696-702.

The invention of the "Copenhagen Interpretation."

Don Howard. "Who Invented the Copenhagen Interpretation? A Study in Mythology." *PSA 2002*. Part II, *Symposium Papers*. Proceedings of the 2002 Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, November 7-9, 2002. A special issue of *Philosophy of Science* 71 (2004). (Forthcoming.)

Von Neumann and the axiomatization of quantum mechanics. London and Bauer on measurement theory.

John von Neumann. "The Measruing Process. *In Mathematical Foundations of Quantum Mechanics*. Robert T. Beyer, trans. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1955, pp. 417-445. Originally published as *Mathematische Grundlagen der Quantenmechanik*. Berlin: Julius Springer, 1932.

Fritz London and Edmond Bauer. "The Theory of Observation in Quantum Mechanics." Abner Shimony et al., trans. In John Archibald Wheeler and Wojciech Hubert Zurek, eds. *Quantum Theory and Measurement*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1983, pp. 217-259. Originally published as *La théorie de l'observation en mécanique quantique*. Actualités scientifiques et industrielles, no. 775. Paris: Hermann, 1939.

Relativistic quantum mechanics, second quantization, and the origins of quantum field theory.

Silvan S. Schweber. "The Birth of Quantum Field Theory" and "The 1930s." In *QED and the Men Who Made It: Dyson, Feynman, Schwinger, and Tomonaga*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1994, pp. 1-129.

Ballentine and the statistical ensemble interpretation.

L. E. Ballentine. "The Statistical Interpretation of Quantum Mechanics." *Reviews of Modern Physics* 42 (1970), 358-381

Bohm and the revival of hidden variables theories. Gleason, Kochen and Specker, and the no-go theorems.

David Bohm. "A Suggested Interpretation of the Quantum Theory in Terms of 'Hidden' Variables. I and II." Physical Review 82 (1952),166-193.

Bell's theorem and the Jarrett analysis.

James T. Cushing. "A Background Essay." In *Philosophical Consequences of Quantum Theory: Reflections on Bell's Theorem*. James T. Cushing and Ernan McMullin, eds. Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press, 1989, pp. 1-24.

Everett, Wheeler, DeWitt and the relative state interpretation.

Hugh Everett. "'Relative State' Formulation of Quantum Mechanics." *Reviews of Modern Physics* 29 (1957), 454-462.

Omnès, Zurek, and decoherence.

Wojciech Zurek. "Decoherence and the Transition from Quantum to Classical—Revisited." (2002). Originally published as: "Decoherence and the Transition from Quantum to Classical." *Physics Today* 44, no. 10 (October 1991), 36-44.

Wojciech Zurek. "Decoherence, Einselection, and the Quantum Origins of the Classical." *Reviews of Modern Physics* 75 (2003), 715-775.

Van Fraassen and the modal interpretation.

Michael Dickson. "The Modal Interpretations of Quantum Theory." *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Winter 2002 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = http://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2002/entries/qm-modal/>.

Quantum computing, quantum information theory, and quantum cryptography.

Charles Bennett. "Quantum Information and Computation." *Physics Today* 48, no. 10 (October 1995), 24.

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Gordon Belot, John Earman, and Laura Ruetsche. "The Hawking Information Loss Paradox: The Anatomy of a Controversy." *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 50 (1999), 189-229.