

# SEMINAR IN PHYSICS

Friday, February 24, 2017

3:30-4:25 - Ross 0220

~ Refreshments! ~

## The Great American Eclipse of 2017

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*UNC Professor of Astronomy*

On August 21 a total solar eclipse will occur that will be visible in the continental United States. The last total solar eclipse visible in the US occurred in 1979 and could only be seen in a small part of northern Idaho and Montana; the 2017 eclipse will be visible in a 70 mile wide path that cuts across the country from Oregon to South Carolina. In addition to being amazing sights to see, total solar eclipses have proven to be extremely valuable scientifically in a variety of subjects ranging from the confirmation of general relativity to ongoing studies of the solar corona and the Earth's atmosphere.

In this talk I will discuss why total solar eclipses are so rare, scientific highlights from past solar eclipses, and some of the planned science for the upcoming eclipse including how you can get involved.