

From the Nanoworld to the Real World: Using Nanoscience to Teach

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**Public lecture:
June 7th 8:00 p.m.
Abbot Hall Rm 138**

The very new, and very interdisciplinary field of Nanoscience studies new structures on the scale of a nanometer ($1/100,000$ the width of a human hair). For the first time humans are building man-made structures on the same size scale as the internal workings of cells or viruses. At such length scales, the properties of everyday materials can become excitingly different, opening vast new opportunities for scientists and engineers to create new technologies which could better the human condition. The emergence of this new field has been compared to the major paradigm shifts which occurred in the past during scientific revolutions. For the teacher, examples from current nanoscale research and technologies provide many opportunities for teaching students and the public about the nature of quantum mechanics, light, materials and the natural progression of scientific revolutions.

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Background image from the Nanostructure Center, University of Cambridge