

Physics 103 - Summer 2014 - Session 2

Instructor: Matthew Kirby

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Office Hours: Tu/Th 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM or by appointment

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Location: PAS 201

Lectures: MTWTF 1:00 PM - 2:45 PM

Recitation: Tu/Th 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Required Text: Physics by Cutnell & Johnson - 9th ed.

Prerequisites: Physics 102

Guidelines for Success

- Physics is a difficult subject. No one can learn physics by just listening to someone talk. You can only learn physics by DOING it. I will give you assignments that will help you learn the material. You must work hard outside of class to ensure that that happens.
 - You CANNOT memorize physics. This may get you through some other class or high school physics, but it WILL NOT get you through this class. You must UNDERSTAND the equations we will be using and the concepts behind them. Otherwise, you have no chance of using those equation correctly. You should be able to explain in words what all the variables are and waht all the equations mean on the equation sheet that I will provide.
 - Attend class all the time. There is no attendence policy, however, since this course will be very fast paced, if you skip a lecture you will be lost when you return.
 - Read the text and do the homework every night.
 - Even if you did well on homeworks, use them to study.
 - If you are ever even slightly confused do not hesitate to ask questions. Me or the teaching assistants will be able to answer them and remedy the situation immediatly so that you do not get behind.
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Exams

A new copy of the equation sheet will be provided along side each exam. You will need a calculator for the exams but graphing calculators are not permitted. There will be 3 exams over the course of the semester and no final.

Exam 1: July 24th

Exam 2: August 4th

Exam 3: August 13th

Final: None

Course Grade

Your course grade will be determined by your performance on the homework, reading quizzes and three exams.

Exams - 70%
Homework - 25%
Reading Quizzes - 5%

If you “suddenly” miss an exam, you must have a valid excuse (death in the family, medical emergency, etc.). Sleeping in (amongst other things) is not a valid excuse. Additionally, you need to speak with me as soon as possible and let me know what happened so we can try and work something out.

If you are missing an exam due to a university function (scientific meeting, official NCAA meet/game, etc.) you **MUST** tell me ahead of time. It may be possible for you to take the exam early. Naturally, you will also be expected to provide proper documentation of that university function.

If you are not certain if you have a valid excuse for missing an exam, you should ask me first.

Grade Scale

≥ 87 A
74 - 87 B
60 - 74 C
50 - 60 D
<50 E

This is an absolute grading scale. Thus, 87.0 is guaranteed to be an A, etc. Similarly, 86.9 will be a B. Incomplete grades are given only if a student has a valid reason for not finishing the course, and if the student is passing and if $\lesssim 25\%$ of the course work remains.

Homework

- Homework (HW) is an extremely important part of this class. First, it is worth 25% of your grade. Second, it is critical to do the HW or you will not do well on the exams. Every semester there are students who fall short of the grade they wanted because they skipped a couple of assignments. Don't be one of those students.
- When working on the HW, you should use the equation sheet that I have provided. You will have the same sheet during the exams so you should learn what is on it and where.
- HW must be turned in at the beginning of every class or it will not be graded. Late homework will not be accepted. If there are extenuating circumstances that prevent you from turning in an assignment on time, please come talk to me about it beforehand.
- The HW assignments have been typed up by me. They will be available on D2L.
- Most of the answers have been provided for you. To get full credit for the problem, you must show ALL of the work that is needed to get the answer. Similarly, if the answer to a conceptual question is "yes" you must explain why it is "yes".
- I expect that you will work in groups. That is fine. However, if you are getting the HW done only with someone else's help, I guarantee that you will do poorly on the exams.
- Graded assignments will be returned at the end of each lecture.
- Solutions will be available on D2L after the lecture for which the assignment is due.

Exam Grading

There is no question that TAs make mistakes when grading exams. However, there are just as many positive mistakes as negative mistakes. These *normally* cancel each other out. In any event, you are welcome to bring your exam back for me to regrade. Here are the guidelines.

- I will regrade the ENTIRE exam so you had better go over the entire answer key before considering doing this. If you think you might get a point or two back, I would recommend you don't have it regraded. You could easily end up with a LOWER score.

- You must return the exam to me within ONE week of the day I return the exams.
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Class Rules

- Please get to class on time. I realize that everyone is late once in a while. If you arrive late please sit near the door so you disturb as few people as possible.
 - Please do not get up and walk out in the middle of class. That is extremely rude. If you need to leave early (for a doctor's appointment or whatever), please tell me ahead of time. Also, please sit near the door so you disturb as few people as possible when you leave.
 - Other than to ask your neighbor about something I am doing, please do not talk in class.
 - Please do not read the newspaper in class.
 - Please turn your cell phones off or to vibrate during class.
 - Laptop computers may only be used if you are using them to take notes. Since this is very hard to do in a physics course (mathematical expressions, drawings, etc.), realistically I expect that no one will be using a laptop. If you are caught using Facebook or whatever, you will be asked to leave the classroom.
 - If there is something about the class that is bothering you, please do not hesitate to tell me about it.
 - You are also expected to follow all student policies which are online at:
<http://catalog.arizona.edu/2013-14/policies/aaindex.html>
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Cheating

Cheating is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. If you are caught cheating, it is my RESPONSIBILITY to report the incident to the Dean of Students. This means that the incident will become part of your official student record. Thus, it could be seen by medical schools (or whatever) that you will be applying to in the future. I think that it is safe to say that you definitely do not want that. If you are caught cheating in this class, the minimum penalty you can expect (in addition to my reporting the incident) is a failing grade in the course.

Note

If there is any special condition which will affect your performance in this course, please let me know as soon as possible.

Everything contained on this syllabus is subject to change.