PHYS161 - General Physics: Mechanics and Particle Dynamics

Fall Semester, 2015

Course description: General Physics: First semester of a three-semester calculus-based general physics

course. Laws of motion, force, and energy; principles of mechanics, collisions, linear

momentum, rotation, gravitation, simple harmonic motion, and fluids.

Pre-requisite MATH 140 **Co-requisite:** MATH 141

Instructor David C Buehrle

1330 Physics Building

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Office hours: Thursdays 9:00 - 11:00 AM

Lecture SECTIONS 0101-0104: MWF 3:00 – 3:50PM, Toll Physics Building Room 1410

(Small Lecture Hall)

SECTIONS 0301-0304: MWF 10:00 – 10:50AM, Toll Physics Building Room

1410 (Small Lecture Hall)

Discussion Sections

Discussion sections will be conducted by the Teaching Assistant, and are a forum where students can ask questions about the course material, where you will take your quizzes, and where problems will be worked out with student participation.

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Section	TA	Office	Day	Time	Room
	Hao Wu,	PSC 1264		3:00PM-	PHY 1402
0101			T	3:50PM	
	haowu@umd.edu	x8 5058			
0103	Hao Wu,	PSC 1264		10:00AM-	CHM 0128
			F	10:50AM	
	haowu@umd.edu	x8 5058			
0104	Hao Wu,	PSC 1264		11:00AM-	PHY 0405
			F	11:50AM	
	haowu@umd.edu	x8 5058			
0301	Robert Buttles,			3:00PM-	PHY 1204
			R	3:50PM	
	rbuttles@terpmail.umd.edu	l			
0302	Theodore Mefford,	PHY 3101		4:00PM-	PHY 1219
			T	4:50PM	
	temefford@gmail.com	x5 6191			
0303	Theodore Mefford,	PHY 3101		12:00PM-	PHY 0405
			W	12:50PM	
	temefford@gmail.com	x5 6191			

temefford@gmail.com

0304

x5 6191

Textbook

Lectures

Required: Physics for Scientists and Engineers Volume 1, Third edition,

by Randall D. Knight (Addison Wesley). Although your homework will be assigned on line through Mastering Physics from the third edition of Randall Knight, please note that insofar as the course material is concerned there is very little of any difference between the 2nd edition and the 3rd edition in regard to Vol. 1. There are significant differences in other volumes but not that of Vol. 1. Therefore, if you were to purchase a used 2nd edition of volume 1 you would not be missing out on anything important – the only difference would be that the assigned HW numbers from the 3rd edition on the Mastering Physics probably would not coincide with the HW problems from the second edition.

Students are required to attend lectures, where announcements will be given, exams will be announced and administered, and the course material will be presented.

We will be using the Learning Catalytics classroom participation tool in our course. Sign in to Mastering and click the "Learning Catalytics" link in the "In-Class Learning" area (top right) to verify your access. If you don't have access yet, you are required to purchase access.

Learning Catalytics access is included when you buy Mastering with an eText subscription or a new book package. If you bought a Mastering subscription without an eText, you will need to purchase Learning Catalytics access.

Not all material will be directly covered in lectures. Students are responsible for reading and understanding all material in assigned chapters, whether or not this material is explicitly treated in the lectures.

No lab component in PHYS161

Homework will be done through Mastering Physics. You must submit your answers for the homework problems over the internet using the Mastering Physics web site (see below).

There are several advantages to electronic homework submission:

- (1) You will know right away if your answer is right or wrong
- (2) If you give a wrong answer, you can go back and try again to see if you can get the correct solution. You will be allowed 6 attempts for each question, so don't waste them.
- (3) You are graded only on your final answers and get your score when you are done.
- (4) The site also has a tutorial capability that you may find helpful.

Note that the software may randomize the numbers each time you make a new attempt on a problem, so be careful and remember that other students working on exactly the same problems are likely to have different numbers. The best way to do physics problems is first to work out carefully a general analytical solution to the

Preparation

Lab Homework problem and then plug in the numbers at the end. This is especially true if the numbers are being randomized each time so everyone has different numbers.

Why You Need to do the Homework: One of the main ways you can understand Physics is by doing the homework. Do not wait until the night before it's due to start working on your homework. The homework can be expected to be difficult and it counts a lot towards your final grade in enabling you to succeed on your exams. A sure way to get an F in this course is to not do the homework or not give yourself enough time to work on it.

Getting started in electronic homework submission: To turn in your homework, you need to go to:

http://www.masteringphysics.com/

The site is best accessed with a current version of Windows Explorer or Firefox. If you run into problems, check the system requirements. In the past, there have been major trouble issues working Mastering in Physics through Google Chrome so don't try using Google Chrome.

Registering and Gaining Access to Mastering Physics: In order to turn in your homework, you will need to register at the Mastering Physics website http://www.masteringphysics.com/. To register, you need two things - an access number and the class ID. When you buy (new or used copy of) your textbook you will need to purchase a Mastering Physics access key number. The easy way to do this is to simply buy it on line from the above MP website.

Your class ID is: PHYS161BUEHRLEF2015

Two mid-term exams: 2 x 20%

There will be two mid-term exams and a one 2 Hr. Final exam. You must take the Final exam in order to pass PHYS161.

All exams are closed book and closed note exams. For each exam, you may have one "cheat sheet" that contains physical constants and formulas. You may also have a calculator

Missing an exam is not allowed without a valid documented excuse as defined by the University (medical problem, religious holiday, or serious family crisis). In all cases, a makeup exam must be completed in a reasonable amount of time or you will receive a score of zero for the exam. The makeup test or assignment, and the due date, must be arranged by consulting with Professor Buehrle as soon as possible after it becomes apparent that an exam date will be missed. Turning in late homework is not encouraged as it will result in a reduction of 10% of the points for every day late. If you are going to miss an assignment because of a religious holiday, it is your responsibility to inform the instructor in advance so that suitable arrangements can be made.

The final grade will be based on the components with the following weights:

Final Grade

Exams

Excuses

= 40 %

= 40 %

Homework, Participation, and Quizzes

= 20 %

The final grade will be set at the end of the semester after all work is completed. In assigning the final grade, I will be guided by the University of Maryland grading policy, quoted below:

- A+, A, A- denotes excellent mastery of the subject and outstanding scholarship. (90-100)
- B+, B, B- denotes good mastery of the subject and good scholarship. (80-90)
- C+, C, C- denotes acceptable mastery of the subject and the usual achievement expected. (70-79)
- D+, D, D- denotes borderline understanding of the subject. It denotes marginal performance, and it does not represent satisfactory progress toward a degree. (60-70)
- F denotes failure to understand the subject and unsatisfactory performance. (< 60)

Students with disabilities

Students with disabilities should meet with the instructor at the beginning of the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made to accommodate the student's needs.

University Closure

In the event of a University Closure the department will do its best to accommodate students by scheduling make-up sessions or revision of the lab schedule.

Academic Integrity

All students will be expected to comply with the University of Maryland's academic integrity policies, including the <u>code of academic integrity</u> and the <u>honor pledge</u>. Failure to comply will result in a failing grade and will be reported to the Honor Council.