UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, College ParkPhysics 420Principles of Modern PhysicsFall 2014

<u>Description</u>: This 3 credits course is designed primarily for engineering and physical sciences students. The lectures will cover main topics on the fundamentals of modern physics, according to the schedule below. <u>Prerequisites</u>: PHYS270 and PHYS271 (formerly: PHYS263) or PHYS273; and MATH246. <u>Lectures</u>: Mon and Weds **3:30-4:45pm** in PHY Rm0405 [Down one floor from staircase next to Rm 1405] <u>Lecturer</u>: Prof. B.L.Hu <u>Office</u>: PSC3153, <u>Phone</u>: 301-405-6029, Email: <u>blhu@umd.edu</u> PhysMailbox #425 Office hours: M,W 4:45-5:30pm or email me hubeilok@gmail.com for additional individual appointments. <u>TA</u>: <u>Office</u>: Phys Mailbox # [to be announced]

<u>Textbooks Required:</u> *Modern Physics* by Serway, Moses and Moyer, 3rd Edition, Thomson, Brooks, Cole 2005. ISBN 0-534-49339-4. The book may be downloaded electronically from: http://www.cengagebrain.com/tl1/en/US/storefront/ichapters?cmd=catProductDetail&ISBN=97805344933 94. (the first chapter is free)

<u>Reading:</u> The progression of lectures for the planned topic(s) can be found in the Course Schedule. The schedule may lag or advance by one lecture if some topics take more or less time than expected. To enhance your comprehension of a particular subject to be covered, you should *try to read the material in the text before coming to the lecture*. This will enable you to ask questions about ideas you may not be able to grasp fully on the first reading and to gain a better overall perspective. *Study the lecture notes as that form the backbone of the course*. Work out the examples and the assigned problems. I encourage questions in class (to the extent time permitting) as they could stimulate your thoughts and lead to good discussions.

<u>Course webpage</u> Check regularly for announcements, homework assignments and due dates in the course website at ELMS/CANVAS system: <u>www.elms.umd.edu/page/student-support</u> where you will also be able to access your exam grades. For questions call the Help Desk at 301.405.1500 or email <u>elms@umd.edu</u>.

<u>Homework:</u> 9 sets of homework problems are planned, counting 20% towards your course grade. They are to be worked out and handed in at the beginning of classes on the due dates -- check the course webpage for last minute changes. Solutions will be posted soon after, thus no late homework will be accepted. I encourage group discussions but stress strongly the importance of thinking through and working out the problems on your own. *Don't rely on others' help or just passively read the solutions*. It makes a real difference in your grasp of the subject matter which shows clearly in your examination performance.

<u>Mid-Term Exams</u>: Two 75-minute closed book mid-term exams are scheduled on **October 13 (Mon) and Nov. 24th (Mon) during the lecture periods**. Each exam covers the material assigned since the previous one, and is likely to contain one or more problems based on the assigned homework problems. Each exam counts 25% towards your course grade. If you know that you cannot take an exam (excuses are only for certified medical, official university or legal duty-related reasons, as stipulated in the University Rules) please notify me well in advance to discuss alternatives. There will be no make-up exams.

<u>Final Exam</u> is on **Wed. Dec 17, 1:30-3:30** pm held in the classroom. Covering chapters to be announced it is worth 30% of total. Not showing up for the final exam will automatically set your course grade to an F.

Exams are meant to test your understanding and ability to apply concepts covered in the course, not how well you can memorize the materials. You may bring one 4x6" index card to the first exam, with equations written on it. Keep this card and prepare another one for the second exam. You are allowed an additional third card to bring to the final exam. The values of constants and some integrals will be provided. Only a non-programmable calculator with standard trigonometry function is allowed, no smart phones, I-Pads etc. **Academic dishonesty is a serious violation** and will be dealt with strictly, according to University policy.

<u>Course Grade:</u> Your course grade is made up with the composition of 20% homework, 25% for each of the two mid-term exams, and 30% from your final exam scores. We use 500 points max for total course score.

| Lectures: Week/Date | | Readings: Chapters in Serway, Moses and Moyer, 3rd ed 2005Topics: schedule [note updating]Homework # (Chap) Due Date | | |
|---|-----------------------|---|--|--|
| 1-2 2-3 | 9/3, 9/8 9/10, 15 | Chap 1Relativity, Lorentz Transformations, Spacetime#19/15Chap 2Relativistic Energy and Momentum, 4-vectors#29/22 | | |
| 3-4 | 9/17, 22 | Chap 3 Quantum theory of light, photoelectric effect, | | |
| 4-5 | 9/24, 29 | Chap 4,5 Early Quantum Physics. Bohr Atom. Matter wave | | |
| 5-6 6 | 10/1, 6 10/8 | Chap. 5 Uncertainty Principle. Wave function Ψ #4 (Ch 4 & 5) 10/8 Chap. 6 Schrodinger Equation, Born Rule. | | |
| 7 | 10/13 10/15 | (Monday)Exam 1Chapters 1-5Chap 6Particle in a 1-Dim Box, Quantum Oscillators | | |
| 8 | 10/20 | Chap 6,7 Properties of Ψ , Operators, Particle Flux #5 (Ch6)10/27 | | |
| | 10/22 | Chap 7 Junction Condition, Step/Barrier Potentials, Tunneling/ Reflection | | |
| 9 | 10/27 | Chap 6.5 , 8 Finite-Depth Well, 2 & 3D particle/oscillators #6(Ch7)11/3 | | |
| | 10/29 | Chap 8 3D Quantum Mechanics, Hydrogen Atom | | |
| 10 | 11/3, 5 | Chap 8 , 9 Hydrogen Atom, Zeeman Effect, #7 (Ch8)11/10 | | |
| 11 | 11/10,12 | Chap 9 Spin-Orbit Coupling and Exchange Force #8(Ch9)11/19 | | |
| 12 | 11/17 | Chap 9 Atomic Structure, Periodic Table | | |
| | 11/19 | Chap 10 Statistical Mechanics, Kinetic Theory | | |
| 13 | 11/24 | (Monday) Exam II Chapters 6-9 | | |
| | 11/26 | No class (Plse note: We'll add 15min to each of the remaining lectures) Have a Warm Thanksgiving! Safe Travel | | |
| 14 | 12/1 | Chap 10 Quantum Statistics: Photons, Phonons/Debye T #9 (Ch10)12/8 | | |
| | 12/3 | Quantum Statistics: Fermions, Fermi Gas Model | | |
| 15 | 12/8, 10 | Chap 11, 12 Molecular Physics and Solid State Physics | | |
| Final Exam – likely Chapters 8-12 only: Dec 17 (Wed) 1:30-3:30 in PHY 0405 (classroom). *** Happy Holidays! *** | | | | |

| PHYSICS 420 CONTENTS and SCHEDULE Fa | all 2014 | Prof. B. L. Hu |
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