

# PHYSICS 106 LIGHT, PERCEPTION, PHOTOGRAPHY, AND VISUAL PHENOMENA

## 1. INSTRUCTORS

Kara Hoffman, Professor of Physics

**Office:** 2208C Physical Sciences Complex (PSC)

**Tel:** (301) 405-7263

**Email:** kara@umd.edu

**Office Hours:** Monday 3-4pm or by appointment. Feel free to contact me to schedule a meeting.

## 2. MEETING TIME AND PLACE

Room 1410 John S. Toll Physics Building

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm

## 3. TEXTBOOKS

3.1. **Required:** Seeing the Light: Optics in Nature, Photography, Color, Vision, and Holography (Wiley, 1986) by David R. Falk, Dieter R. Brill, David G. Stork

## 4. GRADING

Grading: 40% best two of three regular exams  
15% Homework  
15% Quizzes  
30% Final Exam

4.1. **Exams.** There will be three hour exams (I will drop the lowest score after normalization) and a final exam. Since your lowest exam score will be dropped, I will not give make up exams, so please **DO NOT BLOW OFF AN EARLY EXAM**. If you do, you will be stuck if a conflict arises later in the semester.

Hour exams: (Tentative Schedule) Wednesday Feb 24, Monday March 28, Monday April 25

Final exam: Monday May 16 1:30-3:30pm

All exams are closed book, but necessary (and unnecessary!) formulae will be provided.

Make-up exams will be not given for the hour exams since one exam will be dropped.

**4.2. Homework.** Homework will be assigned weekly. The assignments will be posted on our ELMS website, and homework will also be submitted through ELMS. If you write your homework out by hand, you may submit a good quality cell phone image of your work. *Make sure the grader can read it!* Late homework will not be accepted except in the case of illness verified by a doctor's signature.

**4.3. Quizzes.** Quizzes will be assigned via ELMS. They are designed to motivate you to keep up with the course content. If you are doing poorly on quizzes, it's time to review the book or seek out help.

## 5. TIPS FOR DOING WELL

- (1) Read the book before coming to class and be prepared to ask questions.
- (2) Attend the lectures. The lectures, demonstrations, and discussions are all tools to demonstrate the material and help you learn. Material covered in lecture, but not in the book, may appear on exams.
- (3) It is important to spend time on the homework. It is much easier to follow an argument than to apply knowledge on your own. This is where gaps in your knowledge often become apparent. You may collaborate with your classmates, but make sure you can answer the questions on your own.
- (4) Discuss the course content with your classmates. Explaining the course content is a powerful way to crystalize your knowledge.
- (5) Ask for help. If you are struggling in the course, don't wait until the day before the exam to address it.

## 6. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The University of Maryland, College Park has a nationally recognized Code of Academic Integrity, administered by the Student Honor Council. This Code sets standards for academic integrity at Maryland for all undergraduate students. As a student, you are responsible for upholding the highest standards of academic integrity in this course and should be aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism. For more information on the Code of Academic Integrity or the Student Honor Council, please visit <http://www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu/whatis.html>.