

University of Maryland
Department of Physics
Physics 260 – FALL 2018
“General Physics: Vibration, Waves, Heat, Electricity and Magnetism”

Lecture Date and Time: M, W 3:00 – 4:15 PM
Lecture Room: 1412 Physics Building

Instructor: Dr. Hailu Gebremariam
Office: 3109 Physics Building

email: hailu@umd.edu
Phone: x5-9983

Office Hours: W 10:30 – 11:30 AM or by appointment

Discussion schedule:

Section	Date and Time	Room	TA
0201	Tu 8:00 – 8:50 AM	PHY 0405	
0202	Tu 9:00 – 9:50 AM	HBK 0105	
0203	Tu 11:00 – 11:50 AM	PLS 1111	
0204	F 2:00 – 2:50 PM	PHY 1402	
0205	W 12:00 – 12:50 PM	PHY 1219	
0206	M 4:30 – 5:20 PM	PHY 1219	

Textbook: *University Physics, by Young and Freedman (Pearson), 14th edition.*

- If you buy a new textbook, you must get it with an access number to a Materingphysics.com.
- If you buy a used copy, you will need to also purchase an access number which you can do on-line or at the bookstore.

MasteringPhysics.com will be used to assign and collect all Homeworks.

Course Description:

Second semester of a three-semester calculus-based general physics course. Vibrations, waves, fluids; heat, kinetic theory, and thermodynamics; electrostatics, circuits, and magnetism. It recommended to take PHYS260 and PHYS261 in the same semester but the grades for PHYS 260 and PHYS 261 are given separately.

Midterm Exams: October 10, November 19

Final Exam: Thursday December 13, 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Important Notes:

1. Lectures:

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

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.

This Physics course is extremely fast paced and demanding. You will be learning new concepts every lecture and missing even one lecture can make you fall behind simply because the concepts build on the ones covered in earlier sessions. Hence, attendance to lectures and discussions are mandatory.

2. Discussions:

You must attend your discussion section and you must go to the section you have been assigned. Your TA will cover material (homework and exams) that may not be covered elsewhere. Please come prepared so you can ask questions, i.e. read the assigned chapter and work on the homework problems. Remember, the TA is there to explain things and give help when you are stuck, not to dole out answers.

In addition, there will be quizzes during most of the discussion sessions. Quizzes will be closed book, but all formulae will be provided for you. The quiz problems will be largely straightforward and are intended to check your competency in topics from recent homework assignments. **I will drop your lowest quiz score before computing your average.**

3. Homework Assignments:

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.***

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 **course 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 course ID is: **MPGEBREPHYS260FA18**

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 5 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 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. Late homework will incur a penalty. For every day you are late you will incur 10% penalty.

It is your responsibility to check MasteringPhysics frequently to make sure you do not miss any due date.

4. Exams

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

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.

NO Exam will be dropped.

5. Grading:

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

Mid-term exams: 2 x 22.5 %	= 45 %
Comprehensive Final Exam	= 30 %
Homework	= 15 %
Participation, and Quizzes	= 10 %

At the end of the semester all the exam, quiz and homework grades will be added with the above weighting and a final letter grade will be assigned depending on the distribution of total scores.

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)

6. Excuses

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 the Professor 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.

7. 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.

8. Academic Integrity:

All students will be expected to comply with the University of Maryland's academic integrity policies, including the [code of academic integrity](#) and the [honor pledge](#). Failure to comply will result in a failing grade and will be reported to the Honor Council.

9. 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.

Phys 260 Schedule for Fall 2018 (subject to change)

	Dates	Topics	Chapter
Week 1	08/27 09/29	Mechanical Waves	15
Week 2	09/03	Labor Day – NO CLASS	
Week 2	09/05	Sound and Hearing	16
Week 3	09/10 09/12	Temperature and Heat	17
Week 4	09/17 09/19	Thermal Properties of Matter	18
Week 5	09/24		
Week 5	09/26	The First Law of Thermodynamics	19
Week 6	10/01 10/03	The Second Law of Thermodynamics	20
Week 7	10/08		
Week 7	10/10	Exam 1	
Week 8	10/15 10/17	Electric Charge and Electric Field	21
Week 9	10/22		
Week 9	10/24	Gauss's Law	22
Week 10	10/29 10/31	Electric Potential	23
Week 11	11/05 11/07		
Week 12	11/12 11/14	Capacitance and Dielectrics	24
Week 13	11/19	Exam 2	
Week 13	11/21	Thanksgiving – NO CLASS	
Week 14	11/26 12/28	Current, Resistance and emf	25
Week 15	12/03 12/05	Direct Current Circuits	26
Week 16	12/10	Review	
Thursday, December 13, 2018 6:30 – 8:30 PM Final Exam			