

Essay Option for Final

You may submit an essay instead of taking the final exam for PHY2004. It will count for 40 points and have equal weight as the final exam. Your best two scores of the three mid-terms and the essay score will determine your grade. (Quiz scores will also count as if you had taken the normal final exam.)

The essay topic must be relevant to the material covered in the class and it must be your original work. The essay is due by 5 PM on December 15 but you may submit it earlier. The topic must be approved in advance and no later than December 9. (Some possible topics are listed below but you may choose your own.) You may submit the essay by email to Sullivan@phys.ufl.edu or hand in a paper copy at my office Rm 2235 before 5 PM December 15.

The essay should be no less than 6 pages in length and no longer than 10 pages. You should include at least two equations and explain all terms in the equation. You may use any word processor but you must use 12 point font and single spacing. If you do not use Word please send the essay as a pdf file.

The essay will be graded as follows:

15 points for scientific content and explanation of physics principles.

13 points for discussion of application to real life situations.

12 points for writing (grammar, spelling, language)

Possible topics:

My experience of the importance of Newton's Laws.

Angular momentum in everyday life.

Why are conservation laws so important?

The role of physics in creating energy savings.

Why is friction so important for living systems?

