

Course Websites

The physics department PHY2053 website at

<http://www.phys.ufl.edu/courses/phy2053/sum13/>

will contain the course schedule, announcements, exam room assignments, and assigned homework problems. The University of Florida Sakai e-Learning PHY2053 website at

<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>

will contain quiz grades, exam grades, and exam answers. The WebAssign website at

<http://www.webassign.net>

is where you do the on-line homework. Your username, institution code, and initial password

will be emailed to you. For in-class clicker quizzes you will need to register your smart device at

www.viaresponse.com

Course Instructor

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Textbook

Physics, Volume One, 2nd Edition, Authors: Giambattista, Richardson, and Richardson, published by McGraw-Hill. The course will include all the material from Chapter 1 through Chapter 12. The text includes a code used for the required on-line homework graded through WebAssign.

WebAssign Homework

Homework will be collected through the WebAssign system. The problems and their due dates will be posted on the course website. The lowest 10% of grades will be dropped.

Homework is vital to your success in this class. You should attempt more than just the assigned problems

Sakai Assignments

There will be a series of assignments given through Sakai. Questions will be taken from the textbook and lectures. The lowest 10% of the grades will be dropped. Because grades will be dropped, no make-ups will be given.

Discussion Quizzes

There will be a series of handwritten quizzes given in your discussion sections. No formula sheets or notes will be allowed on a quiz.

Quizzes will be given in the Thursday or Friday meeting during weeks without an exam. If you miss a quiz, you have two weeks to complete the make-up. A total of 3 make-up quizzes will be allowed.

Examinations

There will be three mid-term exams and a comprehensive final. You can bring any information you can write on notebook size sheet of paper to a mid-term exam. This can include equations, problem solving strategies, and sample problems. The information must be handwritten.

If you have an average of B+ or higher on the three mid-term exams, you do not have to take the final exam. You can bring three formula sheets to the final.

Exam Schedule

Mid-term 1	Wednesday June 5	Chapters 1-5
Mid-term 2	Tuesday July 2	Chapters 6-8
Mid-term 3	Friday August 2	Chapters 9-12
Make-ups*	Tuesday August 6	
Final exam	Thursday August 8	Chapters 1-12

*Provided only for exams missed for a documented reason. Any documentation must be verifiable. For example, a doctor's note must have a telephone number.

ViaResponse Bonus

There will be a series of short quizzes on the topic of that day's lecture using the ViaResponse clicker system. You will receive 5 points for a correct answer, 2 points for an incorrect answer, and 0 points for missing the quiz. Since ViaResponse quizzes are extra credit, no make-up quizzes will be given and none of the quizzes will be dropped. Registration of smart devices and related information is at <http://www.viaresponse.com>

Example percentage drop calculation

In several places above, a percentage of your grades will be dropped. Here is an example of how it will work.

Suppose there are 100 homework problems assigned and the bottom 10% are dropped. That will be a total of 100 points possible from homework. Dropping 10% means that your grade will be out of $100 - (0.10)(100) = 90$ points. If you have a total of 80 points from your homework, you would receive $(80/90)(15) = 13.3$ points. Normal rounding rules will be applied. A score of 13.33 rounds to 13.3 and 13.35 rounds to 13.4.

You cannot receive more than the maximum points for any portion of the course.

Grading

Assignment	Max Points
Highest mid-term exam	20
Mid-term exam	15
Mid-term exam	15
Final exam*	15
Discussion quizzes	10
WebAssign homework	15
Sakai assignments	10
ViaResponse bonus	5
Total points	105

*Students with a B+ average or higher on the 3 mid-term exams can choose not to take the final exam.

Grading scale

Final grades will be determined by a fixed grading scale. No grading curve will be employed. The overall scale is based on a total of 100 points with ViaResponse quizzes adding an additional 5 points bonus. You cannot get more than 100 points.

If a student is eligible to skip the final exam and does not take the final, the grade will be determined as a percentage out of 85 points.

Grade	Percentage	Grade	Percentage
A	≥90%	C	≥66%
A-	≥86%	C-	≥62%
B+	≥82%	D+	≥58%
B	≥78%	D	≥54%
B-	≥74%	D-	≥50%
C+	≥70%	E	

Honor code

The UF Honor Code applies to all aspects of this course. It is required that you report any possible infractions to the instructor immediately. Violations will be prosecuted to the fullest extent.

Students with disabilities

Students requesting classroom accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Tests will be administered at the Accommodated Testing Center by the Disability Resource Center.

How to succeed

This should be obvious.

- Come to class.
 - Skipping lecture and discussion will hurt your education. Physics is hard to learn on your own. Skipping will also cost you quiz points.
- Come to class prepared.
 - Read the book before coming to class. Review your notes from the last class.
- Read the book and work through the examples.
 - The book is the primary teaching tool. Don't just use your book for the homework problems.
- If you are having trouble, get help.
 - Go to office hours or seek outside help. It is very hard to catch up once you get behind in this course.
- Try to do a little physics every day.
 - Trying to learn all the physics just before an exam is a bad idea. It never worked for me.