

PHY 2020 INTRODUCTION TO PRINCIPLES OF PHYSICS SPRING 2015

ONLINE COURSE FORMAT, 3 CREDIT HOURS

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OFFICE HOURS: Kevin Ingersent: Monday and Friday, 3:00–4:00 p.m.
Ankita Sarkar: Tuesday and Wednesday, 3:30–4:30 p.m.

COURSE WEBSITE: <https://lss.at.ufl.edu> (select “e-learning in Canvas”)

COURSE COMMUNICATIONS: Please post general question to Canvas Discussions. Please send private questions to a course instructor using Canvas Conversations. The instructor will normally reply within one business day. Canvas Conversations are best used for relatively simple communications. If you have a complex or sensitive concern, it would probably be best to request an in-person or phone meeting.

OPTIONAL TEXT: Douglas Giancoli, *The Ideas of Physics*, 3rd edition, published by Brooks/Cole. The textbook is advised, but not obligatory. This is an old book and many copies are available second-hand at auction sites and online booksellers. \$20 should buy a decent copy.

OTHER RESOURCE: There is a great online resource called *The Mechanical Universe* linked on the left-hand side of the course home page. Like Giancoli’s book, it covers more than the course, but gives another independent explanation of the information.

PREREQUISITE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS: High school math (basic algebra, geometry and trigonometry) is expected.

PURPOSE OF COURSE: The purpose of this course is to expose you, the student, to the foundations and principles of physics—the most basic of the experimental sciences—to give you a greater appreciation of the world around you and how it works. The course is designed for people who do not necessarily have any background in physics. It provides a one-semester overview of the subject and meets the General Education Physical Science (“P”) requirement. It may be useful as preparation for Physics 1 courses such as PHY 2053 and PHY 2048.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS: This course runs in the Canvas e-Learning system, which can be accessed at <https://lss.at.ufl.edu>. Students are expected to listen to and watch lecture videos (which are interspersed with demonstrations) to receive an introduction to physics principles and concepts. You are asked to build your understanding by solving practice problems and practice quizzes on your own before looking at the solutions. Online quizzes are given at the end of every module to help you stay on-track. Sample exams are available for a last stage of preparation for the three proctored exams. Assistance is available through public discussion forums and private electronic communications, as well as on-campus office hours.

COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES: The short version is that by the end of this course, you will understand basic principles of physics and their applications. You will demonstrate this understanding by successfully solving physics problems. It is easy to remember “ $F = ma$ ”, but unless you learn when to use it and how to apply it, knowing it is of no use!

General Education credit: This course offers University of Florida General Education credit in the Physical Sciences program area, for which the area objective is as follows: “Physical science courses provide instruction in the basic concepts, theories and terms of the scientific method in the context of the physical sciences. Courses focus on major scientific developments and their impacts on society, science and the environment and the relevant processes that govern physical systems. Students will formulate empirically-testable hypotheses derived from the study of physical processes, apply logical reasoning skills through scientific criticism and argument, and apply techniques of discovery and critical thinking to evaluate outcomes of experiments.”

To achieve these goals, students will be expected to:

- a) analyze particular physical situations, and thus identify the fundamental principles pertinent to the situations,
- b) apply principles to particular situations,
- c) solve any equations arising from the application of identified principles of physics,
- d) communicate results unambiguously.

General Education credit will be earned only for completion of the course with a grade of C or higher.

Student Learning Outcomes: This course will also assess Student Learning Outcomes covering both content and skills:

Content: Students demonstrate competence in the terminology, concepts, theories and methodologies used within the discipline.

Communication: Students communicate knowledge, ideas and reasoning clearly effectively in written and oral forms appropriate to the discipline.

Critical Thinking: Students analyze information carefully and logically from multiple perspectives, using discipline-specific methods, and develop reasoned solutions to problems.

The Student Learning Outcomes will be assessed through 16 graded quizzes and 3 graded and proctored examinations. Quiz and exam questions will cover all subjects listed in the syllabus. Typical questions will require students to complete successfully all four steps outlined in the area objectives above. Obtaining the correct result to the question posed in the form requested in the question will be taken as evidence that all four of the steps have been correctly and successfully completed. In some questions students will be expected to choose between a series of possible explanations of physical outcomes; such explanations may be presented as graphs, numerically or in words. Although knowledge of the fundamental principles of physics is necessary for success in the course, the stress is on understanding how to apply the principles to a variety of situations; rote memorization is minimal.

COURSE EVALUATION: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations will be open toward the end of the semester and students will be informed at that time. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>.

COURSE POLICIES

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Since the course is online, you can work at your own pace provided that you complete all quizzes and exams by the deadlines set in Canvas modules and the Canvas course calendar. Generally, you can work on all material up to four weeks ahead or until the next exam (whichever comes sooner).

QUIZ POLICY: Quizzes may be taken online at any time between the opening of the quiz and the end of the course. However, quizzes submitted after the quiz due date will receive 50% of

the credit that the same answers would have received for an on-time submission. It is in your best interest to submit all quizzes on time.

EXAM POLICY: Exams are taken online under the supervision of ProctorU during a window set in the course modules. You need both to *register* with ProctorU and to *schedule* each exam with ProctorU at least 72 hours (3 days) ahead of time. Details are in the introductory material.

MAKE-UP POLICY: Please make sure from the beginning of the course that you are available for the exams. Make-ups are rare but will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Please contact the instructor.

ASSIGNMENT POLICY: Quiz deadlines and exam windows are announced below and in the course modules.

COURSE TECHNOLOGY: In order to take exams under the supervision of ProctorU, you need access to a computer with a video camera, a microphone, and a good internet connection, located in a quiet room where you can take the exams in privacy.

UF POLICIES

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking the quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT: Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php>.

NETIQUETTE – COMMUNICATION COURTESY: All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all emails, conversations, discussions, and chats. See <http://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>

GETTING HELP

For technical difficulties for e-Learning in Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues *must* be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You *must* e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Other resources are available at <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help> for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability resources
- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support

Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints> to submit a complaint.

GRADING POLICIES:

Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points can be found in the Undergraduate Catalog; see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

Grades in the course are awarded based on an overall course score made up as follows:

Assignment	Percentage of course total
16 quizzes	10% combined
3 exams	90% (30% for each exam)
1 course survey	2%

GRADING SCALE:	76%	A
	71%	A-
	66%	B+
	61%	B
	56%	B-
	51%	C+
	46%	C
	41%	C-
	36%	D+
	31%	D

At first sight, this grading scale may seem generous. This is because the scores on tests that are "fill-in-the-blank" are typically lower than multiple-choice tests.

Scores on each test and quiz automatically appear in the Canvas gradebook ("grades" on the left-hand side). Students can therefore calculate their projected grade at any time. The 10% from quizzes is simply the (correct/total) x 10%, which is then added to the scores from the three exams to make 100%. The only possible extra credit planned is for a course survey mid-semester. Don't ask for individual extra credit – it is against the rules for good reasons!

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Module 1	Introduction to Physics	Quiz due Monday January 12
Module 2	Vectors and Geometry	Quiz due Monday January 19
Module 3	Description of Motion and Falling Bodies	Quiz due Monday January 26
Module 4	Newton's Laws	Quiz due Monday February 2
Module 5	Circular Motion and Newtonian Gravity	Quiz due Monday February 9
Module 6	Work and Energy	Quiz due Monday February 16
EXAM 1	Covers Modules 1-6	Thursday February 19
	Any two-hour slot starting between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m.	
Module 7	Momentum	Quiz due Monday February 23
Module 8	Rotational Motion and Equilibrium	Quiz due Wednesday March 11
Module 9	Structure of Matter	Quiz due Monday March 16
Module 10	Fluids and Archimedes' Principle	Quiz due Monday March 23
Module 11	Temperature and Heat	Quiz due Monday March 30
EXAM 2	Covers Modules 7-10	Thursday April 2
	Any two-hour slot starting between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m.	
Module 12	Waves and Sound	Quiz due Monday April 6

Module 13	Electrostatics	Quiz due Thursday April 9
Module 14	Electric Current	Quiz due Monday April 13
Module 15	Magnets and Magnetism	Quiz due Monday April 20
Module 16	Light Rays	Quiz due Wednesday April 22
EXAM 3	Covers Modules 11-16	Tuesday April 28
	Any two-hour slot starting between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m.	

All times above are Eastern time.

DISCLAIMER: This syllabus represents the instructors' current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.