Course Policies

PHY2054 - Spring 1999

Prerequisites

This course is the second semester of our introductory physics course without calculus. It covers electricity, magnetism, and geometrical optics. As a prerequisite for PHY2054, you should have taken Physics 1 (PHY2053) or an equivalent course.

Grading Policy

Your grade for the course will be determined as follows - 75% comes from your three highest exam scores (3 x 25%), and 25% from your graded quiz score:

During-Term Exams

There will be three evening exams during the semester. You are allowed to drop your lowest exam score, including the final (*IMPORTANT- read Final Exam section below*). Your three highest exams count 25% each towards your grade. The dates and times of the exams are (rooms will be announced in lecture prior to the exam):

Exam #1: Friday, February 5, 8:20-10:10 pm
Exam #2: Monday, March 22, 8:20-10:10 pm
Exam #3: Friday, April 16, 8:20-10:10 pm

Final Exam

The final exam is cumulative and counts 25% towards your final grade (see calendar for date). You are required to show for the final exam, even if this is the exam score you choose to drop - i.e., if you wish to drop the final, you must show and hand in an empty exam. If you fail to show for the final, you will receive either an E (failure) or an I (incomplete) for the course, dependent on your course grades up to that point.

Final exam = Tuesday, April 27, 12:30-2:30 pm, rooms to be announced in lecture

Graded Quizzes

There will be weekly quizzes in your discussion section. They will be in-class quizzes. Late submissions will not be accepted or graded. You may drop your lowest two quiz scores. The quiz scores will be curved by section instructor. Quizzes usually cover concepts presented in lecture either during the present or previous week.

The course is graded on a curve. After each exam, we will give you an estimate of your class standing based upon your cumulative exam score.

Exam Policy

If you cannot make one of the exams, then you must notify the course professor at least one week before the exam and we will arrange a time for you to take the exam before the rest of the class takes the exam. You must present valid documentation explaining why you cannot make the regularly scheduled exam.

If you cannot make an exam because of a medical or other emergency, there will be one make-up covering all the course material at the end of the semester. As before, you will need documentation for why you missed the exam (for example, from Student Services, 392-1261 Peabody Hall).

If you miss the final exam without making arrangements with the instructor, you will receive an I (incomplete) for the course provided you have a passing grade up until that point - such an incomplete will require you to re-take the entire course. If instead you had a failing grade, missing the final exam without making arrangements with the instructor will result in an E grade for the course. For excused absences, the make-up final exam is the final exam of the following semester (Fall 1999). This usually has a detrimental effect on grades because of the time lapse.

Please report to your designated exam room at least 10 minutes before the exam is scheduled to begin. You are allowed to bring #2 pencils, a calculator, and a one-page, handwritten (in your own handwriting) formula sheet (8.5x11 inch, both sides) to each exam, including the final. Do not bring scratch paper as it will be provided. You must hand in the formula sheet and all scratch paper when you turn in your exam: they will all be handed back to you after the exam is graded. Sharing calculators, formula sheets, or anything else during the exam is a violation of academic honesty, and thus expressly forbidden.

As a result of completing registration at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement: "I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University." Any violation of Academic Honesty in this course will lead to a failing grade in the course.

Course Material

The textbook for the course is Physics, 4th edition, by Cutnell and Johnson.

Extremely useful course material is available on the worldwide web at the following three sites:

1.) **PHY2054 home page**: http://www.phys.ufl.edu/~reitze/teaching/spring99/phy2054.htm
This site will provide course handouts, class announcements, exam scores and other relevant course information. Links to the instructor's lecture notes will also be available from this site. Note that there

will be a delay of a few days between the day of the lecture and the time the lecture notes become available online. For this and other reasons, students are strongly advised to attend lectures on a daily basis. Parts of this web page will be private, i.e., they will require a login and a password. Unless announced otherwise, the login is phy2054 and the password is gauss.

2.) **Physics 2 home page**: http://www.phys.ufl.edu/~phy3054/
This past PHY2054 site provides many helpful examples and sample problems, plus copies of past exams from other instructors. Please note that the URL contains phy3054 not phy2054 for historical reasons.

3.) The **American Institute of Physics** has set up a web page discussing why physics is relevant to a wide range of disciplines: http://www.aip.org/success/. A discussion of numerous important impacts of physics upon the field of medicine is provided at http://www.aip.org/success/improveshealth/index.html

As part of the course, each student can obtain a class computer account to access this information. Under the UF GatorLink program, each University of Florida student can receive *at no cost* an e-mail account, 15 hours of dialup internet connection per month, access to on-line course registration, and access to the microcomputer labs. Additional connection time is available for a small charge. **All students are strongly encouraged to obtain a GatorLink account, and use it to access the online course materials.** If you know your social security number and University of Florida PIN you can create a GatorLink ID in one of the CIRCA computer labs, at the UF Computing Help Desk in CSE E520, or online at http://www.gatorlink.ufl.edu (this site also has a detailed help menu).

You may find the free application Adobe Acrobat Reader useful to view a few of the online documents, particularly course handouts requiring detailed formatting or graphics. Acrobat Reader allows you to read pdf files ("portable document format"), and can be configured as a helper application to enable direct viewing of pdf files with your Netscape or Microsoft web browser. Versions of Acrobat Reader are available for Windows, Mac and other operating systems, and can be freely downloaded from the UF software archive http://www.software.ufl.edu/acrobat.html or directly from Adobe at http://ww.adobe.com (the direct link was http://www.adobe.com/prodindex/acrobat/readstep.html as of 8/4/98). Please note that Adobe Acrobat Reader is free, while the full-featured version Adobe Acrobat is not - if you already own Adobe Acrobat it will definitely do the job, but you do not need to buy Adobe Acrobat for this course.

The location of this page is: http://www.phys.ufl.edu/~reitze/teaching/spring99/policy.htm
Please send questions or comments to reitze@phys.ufl.edu

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