Words of advice

1. Work hard. This is a difficult course and to a large extent your success will be correlated with the total number of problems you solve independently throughout the semester.

2. Attend Class. Remember, the syllabus is defined by what is covered in lectures. You will only be tested on material covered in class, the reading assignments or on the homework assignments. If you miss class, ask a class-mate (or me) for notes. In office hours, I am happy to explain things which you did not understand in class. I am not so happy to explain things that you have not seen because you were not in class and did not get anybody’s notes.

3. Be on time for class. Announcements are generally made at the beginning of each lecture, and you are responsible for learning of these whether you attend class or not.

4. If you are struggling, ask for help. The best way to get hold of me is after class, or in assigned office hours. If you want to discuss physics and cannot make time during my office hours, I can be flexible, but check with me first.

5. Take notes. Something that is obvious at the time is quickly forgotten. When it comes to the night before a test, you will appreciate a good set of lecture notes. If it is not in your notes, you’ll regret it!

6. It’s OK to discuss homework assignments with class mates but do your own homework independently. I cannot police copying, but you will look foolish if you can do a homework question and then, when the same or a related question comes up on an exam (as it often does), you have no idea how to approach it.

7. Cultivate enthusiasm and enjoy what you are doing!