

Physics 10 - Winter 2009

Instructor: David Newton

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Office Hours: Monday 11:30-12:20 PM, Tuesday 2:30-3:20, Wednesday 10:30-11:20, Thursday 11:30-12:20, Friday 10:00-10:50 AM, and by appointment.

Final Exam: Thursday, March 26th, 11:30 am - 1:30. Finals will not be given earlier or later.

Text: Conceptual Physics by Hewitt. 10th edition.

This course will explore the structure of physics from a purely conceptual standpoint. Few mathematical techniques will be used to express the rationale of our universe, instead, verbal logic will be employed. Few numerical calculations will be performed. Although it may sound easier to study physics without mathematics, actually this is a challenging goal and requires a skillful and precise use of language. We will start with mechanics and study motion, Newton's laws, energy, and momentum. Then the structure of the atom and the nature of matter. Electricity is next including simple circuits. And oscillations, wave motion, and sound are last. Special topics (light, relativity, quantum mechanics, etc..) will briefly be treated after that as time allows.

NO make-up exams without PRIOR consent from the instructor. Use the office phone number given above if you can't see me at school. If I'm not in my office, there is an answering machine at that number available for you to leave a message day or night.

Attendance is required! If you miss more than five lectures, you may find yourself dropped from the class. A missed quiz, pop or scheduled, is considered equivalent to a missed lecture.

Of your three exams, the low score will be minimized on a percent basis as follows: Your two highest scores will be tripled and then added to the lowest score; that total will then be divided by seven for an average total exam score. It is important to understand that this does not mean your low exam score will be thrown out. No exam score will be thrown out. Also, NO cheat sheets or note cards or whatever you might call them will be allowed during exams. Exams will not require detailed memorization of many equations.

Your lowest quiz score will be dropped. No make ups for quizzes will be given. If you miss a quiz consider this to be your throw out.

To pass the class you must take all the exams and the final exam.

No final grades will be posted. If you want your final grade then give me a self-addressed stamped envelope at the end of the quarter and I will mail you your final grade but not your final exam or its score. You may come and inspect your final exam any time during the next quarter.

A score of zero points will be given to an assignment if a student has been found cheating on it.

You will be graded on the union of the information provided in the lecture and from the assigned text readings. The grades will be given on the traditional percentages:

A: 92-100%;

A-: 90-91%

B+: 88-89%

B: 82-87%;

B-: 80-81%

C+: 78-79%

C: 60-77%;

D: 50-60%;

F: lower than 50%.

Overall class scores may be curved to fit this pattern.

The grade distribution is as follows:

Quizzes 15%

Exams (3 exams) 35%

Final (comprehensive) 50%