COURSE SYLLABUS -- Physics 1403-001, General Physics I, Spring, 2010
9:00am – 9:50pm MWF, Science Room 007

Instructor: Dr. Hisham Bani-Salameh.
Office: Room Sc. 08 or Room Sc. 09.
Office Hours: 10:00 – 11:00 MWF & 11:00-12:30 TT.
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Physics 1403 is a non-calculus introductory physics course covering mechanics, heat, and sound, thus providing background for study in science-related areas. Partially fulfills Core Natural Sciences requirement. This is algebra/trig based 1st semester physics. Math pre-requisites: Math 1320 (Algebra) & Math 1321 (Trig) or Math 1550 (Pre-Calculus) or equivalent. The course level is the standard introductory physics level.

Core Competency Statement: Students graduating from Texas Tech University should be able to: explain some of the major concepts in the Natural Sciences and to demonstrate an understanding of scientific approaches to problem solving, including ethics.

Student Learning Outcomes: 1) Demonstrate knowledge of the scientific method and to contrast it with other ways of understanding the world. 2) Demonstrate knowledge of the tools and methods used by scientists to study the natural world. 3) Explain some of the major theories in the Natural Sciences. 4) Describe how Natural Sciences research informs societal issues, including ethics.

Lab Co-Requisite: You must be enrolled concurrently in a section of 1403 (no-credit) Lab!
Textbook Web site: http://wps.prenhall.com/esm_giancoli_physicsppa_6. This has many helpful items: Topical Outlines of chapters, Extra Problems & Exercises (with answers), Homework Problems (graded online!), Help resources.

Course Topics: Ch. 1-12 of text if time allows.

Exams:
- Exam I 20% of grade Chapters 1-4
- Exam II 20% of grade Chapters 5-8
- Exam III 20% of grade Chapters 9-10
- Final Exam 40% of grade Comprehensive
- Homework 15% of grade On-line!
- Quizzes 5% of grade in class & On-line!

The lowest exam grade (excluding the Final!) will be dropped. The homework & quiz grades will NOT be dropped!

NO MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN! (Exceptions: medical problems with Dr.’s excuse & absences on official TTU business.)

Homework: homework problems will be assigned regularly (at least one homework per chapter) on-line. Problems will be worked & graded through the Masteringphysics website (see separate handout for details).

Quizzes: To encourage attendance and preparation for class at home, a short (~10 min.) Quiz will be given at different days during the semester. Quizzes will be over things that we already covered AND things that we are covering that day. Most of the quizzes will be given on-line on the masteringphysics
website and some might be given in class.

**Lab Grade:** The Lab Grade is calculated by your TA & is given to me at the end of the semester. If you want to get an A in this class, you have to do good in the lab because it’ll count for 20% of the final grade of the course.

**Course Grade:** The Course Grade is obtained from the Lecture Grade (80%) & Lab Grade (20%).

**APPROXIMATE(!!) Grade Scale:**

\[ 100 \geq A \geq 90 \geq B \geq 78 \geq C \geq 66 \geq D \geq 54 \geq F \geq 0 \]

**NOTE:** I reserve the right to slightly alter these cutoffs! I reserve the right to assign a higher grade to any student whose efforts may not be reflected in their total points. You can’t receive a lower grade than the one you deserve indicated by the total points you accumulate during the semester.

**Attendance:** I don’t take roll & have no specific attendance policy. Class attendance is highly encouraged (is required) to get a good grade? Sometimes there might be extra points given to students present in class.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** Academic dishonesty (cheating, etc.) will not be tolerated! Students caught in this type of behavior will be punished to the extent allowed by TTU. See Student Handbook or Catalogue.

**CLASSROOM CIVILITY:** You are expected to assist in maintaining an environment which is conducive to learning. To assure that all have an opportunity to gain from class time, you are prohibited from using cell phones/beepers, eating/drinking in class, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping or engaging in any form of distraction. This includes talking to others while I’m lecturing! Inappropriate behavior shall result in, minimally, a request to leave class.

Any student who, because of disabling conditions, may require some special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible so that necessary accommodations can be made. Proper documentation must be presented from the Dean of Students Office!