

Phys 1304: Physics, Basic Ideas and Methods

Syllabus

Instructor: Luis Grave de Peralta
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Course Information

- Meeting place and time: MWF 2:00 PM – 2:50 PM, Science 112
- Textbook: Serway & Jewett, Physics for Scientist and Engineers, Volume 1, Chapters 1 to 9
- Recommended textbooks: High School Physics, Algebra and Geometry textbooks

Course Description:

- Phys 1304 is intended to provide physics background to pre-engineering students. Examines basic concepts in physics. Problem-solving techniques, graphical representations, and pertinent mathematics.
- **Exams:** There will be three in-class exams and no final exam (see Class Schedule for dates).
- The exams are closed book. You may bring one hand-written 3" by 5" index card with formulae, etc. Telephones, pagers, PDAs and other gizmos are not allowed. Calculators are allowed.
- There will be no make-up exams.
- The lowest exam grade will be dropped since there are no makeup exams.
- **Homework** problems will be assigned in M&W classes every week. In Friday classes, randomly selected students will resolve homework problems in front of the class. These students will be graded according to their work.
- **Grading:** Homework 50%, each exam 25% towards your final course grade. The grading scale is A=100-87%, B=86-74%, C=73-62% and D=61-50%, F=49 to 0%.
- **Help:** Do not wait until the last second to seek help. If you do not understand the material or feel that you are falling behind, seek help as soon as possible.
- Your instructor is available during office hours. If you cannot make it, call him or email him.
- Physics TAs have office hours posted in the Science Bldg. Room 04. Use their help.
- Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be treated according to the rules outlined in the Student Handbook.
- Any student that because of a disabling condition may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact their instructor as soon as possible so that the necessary accommodations can be made. Student should present appropriate verification from Access Tech. No requirement exists that accommodations be made prior to completion of this approved university procedure

Course Goals

- Be familiar with basic Mechanic concepts as: displacement, velocity, acceleration, mass, force, linear momentum and mechanical energy.
- Know how to describe mathematically the movement of point objects.
- Know how to use the Newton's laws to solve simple mechanical problems.
- Know how to solve simple mechanical problems using the principle of conservation of the mechanical energy.

Learning Assessment

- Certain problems on the exams will explicitly require facility with the course objectives and be used as learning assessment tools.