

PHYS 2113 – GENERAL PHYSICS I

Fall Semester 2009

Section PHYS-2113-P01, MWF 11:00 AM to 11:50 AM; New Science Building Room 122

Instructor	Dr. ORION CIFTJA	Office Hours	M. 10-11 12-2; W. 10-11 12-2; F. 10-11 12-2
Office	New Science Building 330F		
Tel: 936-261-3137	E-mail: ogciftja@pvamu.edu	http://www.pvamu.edu/physics	

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: Semester credit hours: 3. General Physics course with no calculus.

TEXTBOOK: Essentials of College Physics, Serway and Vuille (Thomson-Brooks/Cole).

COURSE GOAL: This is the first course in introductory college physics. It is designed for students who plan to major or specialize in one of the areas of medicine, veterinary, or in one of the many areas of technology, including computer science. At least one year of physics is the minimum prerequisite for specialization in one of these fields.

COURSE OUTCOMES: Upon completion of this course, it is expected that the students will gain enough knowledge of the theory covered to apply it to the solution of a wide range of practical problems that involve physics. Hopefully this will help the students to better understand the theory of operations of many instruments and devices that they will encounter as they become employed in the various fields mentioned earlier. In addition, it will help them solve new problems that they will possibly meet on their various fields of employment that require basic knowledge of physics.

COURSE POLICIES: This course uses the lecture format. Selected materials in each chapter will be covered in lecture. You should read the entire assigned chapter before class. The lecture will not replace reading the materials. The lecture will be to amplify and explain the materials in the textbook. Homework problems will be assigned during the entire semester for each chapter covered. It is expected that the student solve these problems prior to the next class meeting. Any student unable to solve a particular assigned problem should contact the professor. Pop quizzes may be given occasionally on covered materials. It is expected that you will need to spend at least two hours studying outside the class for each hour spent in class. That means you should plan to devote a minimum of six hours per week for this class.

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND GRADING: There are four exams in this class. Under all circumstances, the mid-term and the final exam are in-class exams taken at a prescribed time. Two exams are given during the first half of the semester and two more exams during the second half of the semester. Each exam is worth 20 points and a total of 80 points of your final grade. Makeup examinations are given **ONLY** for a university-approved absence verified in writing. The remaining 20 points of your final grade will come from two homework assignments. Upon the discretion of the Instructor, bonus points (between 10 to 30) will be available from quizzes, classroom attendance rolls and any special project(s) together, any or some of them chosen by the Instructor. Homework assignments should be turned in on their due dates. No late homework assignments will be accepted.

Based into a percentage scale of total points earned relative to the maximum of points available, the grading system is as follows:

90 – 100	A
80 - 89	B
70 - 79	C
60 - 69	D
0 - 59	F

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: Oral or written communications will be given through exams, homework, classroom discussions and use of optional web-based materials.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Class will start and end at the prescribed times. Attendance at every class is expected and is each student's responsibility. Absence or tardiness may result in lowered grades. Excessive absenteeism, whether EXCUSED or UNEXCUSED, may result in a student's course grade being reduced or assignment of a grade of "F". Absences are accumulated beginning with the first day of class. The University Undergraduate Catalog provides more detailed information.

STUDENT ACADEMIC APPEALS PROCESS: Authority and responsibility for assigning grades rests with the faculty. However, in those instances where students believe that miscommunication, errors, or unfairness of any kind may have adversely affected the instructor's assessment of their academic performance, the student has a right to appeal by the procedure listed in the University Undergraduate Catalog and by doing so within thirty days of receiving the grade or experiencing any other problematic academic event that prompted the complaint.

ADA STATEMENT: Students with disabilities who believe they may need an adjustment in this class are encouraged to contact the Office of Disabilities Services at (936) 857-2693/2694 as soon as possible. Once you receive a letter of adjustment from the office, kindly make an appointment with me to discuss appropriate adjustments for this class.

CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM: Prairie View A&M University is dedicated to a high standard of academic integrity among its faculty and students. In becoming part of the Prairie View A&M academic community, students are responsible for honesty and independent effort. Disciplinary action will be taken against any student who alone or with others engages in any act of academic fraud or deceit.

GRADE OF "I": A grade of "I" may be given in cases of documented emergencies or tragedies that prohibit a student from completing a course. In order to receive a grade of "I", approval must be granted by the Department Head and College Dean.

COURSE OUTLINE

Week (Starting on)	Topic	Note
1 (Aug. 31)	Ch. 1: Introduction	
2 (Sept. 7)	Ch. 2: Motion in one dimension	
3 (Sept. 14)	Ch. 2: (continued)	
4 (Sept. 21)	Ch. 3: Vectors and two-dimensional motion	
5 (Sept. 28)	Exam # 1 Ch. 4: The laws of motion	Exam # 1
6 (Oct. 5)	Ch. 4 (continued)	
7 (Oct. 12)	Ch. 5: Energy	
8 (Oct. 19)	Ch. 5: (continued)	
9 (Oct. 26)	Exam #2 Ch. 6: Momentum and Collisions	Exam # 2
10 (Nov. 2)	Ch. 6: (continued)	
11 (Nov. 9)	Ch. 7: Rotational Motion and the law of gravity	
12 (Nov. 16)	Exam # 3 Ch. 8: Rotational equilibrium and rotational dynamics	Exam # 3
13 (Nov. 23)	Ch. 8: (continued)	
14 (Nov. 30)	Ch. 9: Solids and fluids OR Ch. 13 & Ch. 14: Vibrations and waves; Sound	
15 (Dec. 7)	Review , study, and final exam days	Final Exam

THIS SCHEDULE IS VARIABLE

University Rules and Procedures

Disability statement (See Student Handbook):

Students with disabilities, including learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in class, should register with the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal laws, a student requesting special accommodations must provide documentation of their disability to the SSD coordinator.

Academic misconduct (See Student Handbook):

You are expected to practice academic honesty in every aspect of this course and all other courses. Make sure you are familiar with your Student Handbook, especially the section on academic misconduct. Students who engage in academic misconduct are subject to university disciplinary procedures.

Forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Cheating: deception in which a student misrepresents that he/she has mastered information on an academic exercise that he/she has not mastered; giving or receiving aid unauthorized by the instructor on assignments or examinations.
2. Academic misconduct: tampering with grades or taking part in obtaining or distributing any part of a scheduled test.
3. Fabrication: use of invented information or falsified research.
4. Plagiarism: unacknowledged quotation and/or paraphrase of someone else's words, ideas, or data as one's own in work submitted for credit. Failure to identify information or essays from the Internet and submitting them as one's own work also constitutes plagiarism.

Nonacademic misconduct (See Student Handbook)

The university respects the rights of instructors to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires campus conditions that do not impede their exercise. Campus behavior that interferes with either (1) the instructor's ability to conduct the class, (2) the inability of other students to profit from the instructional program, or (3) campus behavior that interferes with the rights of others will not be tolerated. An individual engaging in such disruptive behavior may be subject to disciplinary action. Such incidents will be adjudicated by the Dean of Students under nonacademic procedures.

Sexual misconduct (See Student Handbook):

Sexual harassment of students and employers at Prairie View A&M University is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Any member of the university community violating this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

Attendance Policy:

Prairie View A&M University requires regular class attendance. Excessive absences will result in lowered grades. Excessive absenteeism, whether excused or unexcused, may result in a student's course grade being reduced or in assignment of a grade of "F". Absences are accumulated beginning with the first day of class.

Student Academic Appeals Process

Authority and responsibility for assigning grades to students rests with the faculty. However, in those instances where students believe that miscommunication, errors, or unfairness of any kind may have adversely affected the instructor's assessment of their academic performance, the student has a right to appeal by the procedure listed in the Undergraduate Catalog and by doing so

within thirty days of receiving the grade or experiencing any other problematic academic event that prompted the complaint.

Technical Considerations for Online and Web-Assist Courses

Minimum Hardware and Software Requirements:

- Pentium with Windows XP or PowerMac with OS 9
- 56K modem or network access
- Internet provider with SLIP or PPP
- 8X or greater CD-ROM
- 64MB RAM
- Hard drive with 40MB available space
- 15" monitor, 800x600, color or 16 bit
- Sound card w/speakers
- Microphone and recording software
- Keyboard & mouse
- Netscape Communicator ver. 4.61 or Microsoft Internet Explorer ver. 5.0 /plug-ins
- Participants should have a basic proficiency of the following computer skills:
 - Sending and receiving email
 - A working knowledge of the Internet
 - Proficiency in Microsoft Word
 - Proficiency in the Acrobat PDF Reader
 - Basic knowledge of Windows or Mac O.S.

Netiquette (online etiquette): students are expected to participate in all discussions and virtual classroom chats when directed to do so. Students are to be respectful and courteous to others in the discussions. Foul or abusive language will not be tolerated. When referring to information from books, websites or articles, please use APA standards to reference sources.

Technical Support: Students should call the Prairie View A&M University Helpdesk at 936-261-2525 for technical issues with accessing your online course. The helpdesk is available 24 hours a day/7 days a week. For other technical questions regarding your online course, call the Office of Distance Learning at 936-261-3290 or 936-261-3282

Communication Expectations and Standards:

All emails or discussion postings will receive a response from the instructor within 48 hours.

You can send email anytime that is convenient to you, but I check my email messages continuously during the day throughout the work-week (Monday through Friday). I will respond to email messages during the work-week by the close of business (5:00 pm) on the day following **my receipt** of them. Emails that I receive on Friday will be responded to by the close of business on the following Monday.

Submission of Assignments:

Assignments, Papers, Exercises, and Projects will distributed and submitted through your online course. Directions for accessing your online course will be provided. Additional assistance can be obtained from the Office of Distance Learning.

Discussion Requirement:

Because this is an online course, there will be no required face to face meetings on campus. However, we will participate in conversations about the readings, lectures, materials, and other aspects of the course in a true seminar fashion. We will accomplish this by use of the discussion board.

Students are required to log-on to the course website often to participate in discussion. It is strongly advised that you check the discussion area daily to keep abreast of discussions. When a topic is posted, everyone is required to participate. The exact use of discussion will be determined by the instructor.

It is strongly suggested that students type their discussion postings in a word processing application and save it to their PC or a removable drive before posting to the discussion board. This is important for two reasons: 1) If for some reason your discussion responses are lost in your online course, you will have another copy; 2) Grammatical errors can be greatly minimized by the use of the spell-and-grammar check functions in word processing applications. Once the post(s) have been typed and corrected in the word processing application, it should be copied and pasted to the discussion board.