

PHYS 2111 – GENERAL PHYSICS LAB I
Spring Semester 2010

Instructor	Dr. Cleo Bentley	Office Hours	
Office	E.E. O'Banion Building, room 330AB	E-mail	clbentley@pvamu.edu
Phone	936-261-3138	Time & Place	P02: W 2 -4:50pm, Room 307

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: Semester credit hours: 1. General physics laboratory to include hands-on and computer-based experiments on measurement, vectors-force table, air track, projectile motion, static and kinetic friction, ballistic pendulum, Atwood's machine, blocks and incline, centripetal force, moment of inertia, oscillations-simple and physical pendulum.

PREREQUISITE: None

TEXTBOOK: Physics 2111 Laboratory manual (available online); Physics Laboratory Experiments, 5th Ed., by Wilson, J. D (optional)

COURSE GOAL: To enable students to have a hands-on experience with the physical laws especially those dealing with Newtonian mechanics (the focus of this laboratory). This lab will also strengthen student's skills on how to approach and solve a problem, etc.

COURSE POLICIES: The lab report will be due on the session in which the lab is performed. Each group will hand in one lab report for each laboratory session, containing the names of the members of the group. Attendance is required therefore is the responsibility of the students to make sure their names appear in the submitted lab reports (NO EXCUSES ACCEPTED!). No grade is given for a missed lab. Students can make up ONLY one missed lab by the end of the semester (note the Lab Make-up day scheduled in the final week before the Lab test).

GRADING: Each lab will be graded according to a given scale (for instance max of 5 points). A final theory test not to exceed 20 (twenty) points may be given if chosen by the professor. The laboratory reports can be group projects, but the test (if given) must be an individual endeavor. Other grading schemes as explained by the Instructor of record may also be implemented. Based into a percentage scale, 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 communication will be given through exams, homework, classroom, individual discussion, 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.

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 prior to the final examination time.

COURSE OUTLINE

Week (Starting on)	Topic	Note
1 (Jan. 18)	No Lab the first week!	No Classes Jan. 18, MLK Day
2 (Jan. 25)	Lab 1: Introduction / Measurement / Calculation of density	
3 (Feb. 1)	Lab 2: Vectors on a Force Table	
4 (Feb. 8)	Lab 3: 1D and 2D Motion: Linear Air Track or Free-fall and Projectile Motion	
5 (Feb. 15)	Lab 4: Static and Kinetic Friction	
6 (Feb. 22)	Lab 5: Centripetal Force	
7 (Mar. 1)	Lab 6: Hooke's Law and Springs	
8 (Mar. 8)	No Labs, Midterm Week	
9 (Mar. 15)	No Classes or Labs, Spring Break	
10 (Mar. 29)	Lab 7: Simple Pendulum	No Classes April 2, Good Friday
11 (Apr. 5)	Lab 8: Conservation of Linear Momentum (Ballistic Pendulum or Air Table)	
12 (Apr. 12)	Lab 9: Torque, Equilibrium and The Center of Gravity	
13 (Apr. 19)	Lab 10: Rotational Inertia	
14 (Apr. 26)	Lab Makeup / Lab Test	
15 (May. 3)		Course Review, Study and Final Exams

THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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.