

PHYS 201 General Physics I Fall 2008

Instructor: *Dr. C. Gerousis*

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Office Hours: I will be available in my office for consultation and questions during the following hours:

M: 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

W: 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

R: 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

F: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

And by appointment only.

Web: <http://www.pcs.cnu.edu/~gerousis>

Text: Serway and Beichner, *Physics for Scientists and Engineers*, 6th edition. Students are encouraged to use the text CD-ROM that contains tools designed to enhance the learning of physical concepts and train students to become better problem solvers.

Goals

Primary goals of the course include:

- Improving student's knowledge of physics including principles, theories, and techniques.
- Encouraging a critical, problem-solving approach to address and resolve questions about natural laws.
- Promoting individual attributes of curiosity and creativity.

Students are responsible for their own learning, through reading and studying the text, reviewing the lectures, and working homework problems. The teaching staff will provide help and resources as needed.

IDEA Objectives

- Learning fundamental principles, generalizations, or theories. (Essential)
- Gaining factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends). (Important)
- Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions). (Important)

Exams

There will be 2 exams during the semester and a final exam at the end of the semester. The final exam will be cumulative and will be given during the scheduled final period. All exams will be closed book and closed notes, although you will be allowed to bring a *one-3x5* inch index card with notes/equations. No make-up exams are given except in cases of documented illness.

Homework

A collection of problems will be assigned roughly each week. The ability to solve and analyze problems is one of the most important skills that the student will develop in this course.

- Usually the biggest contributor to excessive time spent on homework is failure to read the text material and class notes for understanding prior to attempting problems.
- Cooperative group study on the homework is encouraged, but simply copying someone else's work is unethical and will leave you unprepared for exams. Any indication that the work on a homework assignment or an exam is not entirely your own will result in a failing grade for that work.
- There will be no extension for homework assignments except in cases of documented illness.

You are required to have a **WebAssign** account for this class. An access card good for one class and one semester can be purchased at the bookstore for a few dollars. Once I receive the roster, I will be creating WebAssign accounts for you, which will be distributed in class. If you miss class, you *must* come see me *during office hours in the first week of the semester*.

Grading

The final grade will be determined as follows:

WebAssign Homework	25%
Two Midterm Exams	40%
Final Exam	35%

Grading Scale

Score	Grade	Score	Grade
100-93	A	80-77	C+
93-90	A-	77-73	C
90-87	B+	73-70	C-
87-83	B	70-60	D
83-80	B-	< 60	F

Tentative Schedule

Week of	Topics	Chapters
8/25	Units, Estimates, 1-D Motion	1.4-7, 2.1-3
9/1	1-D Motion, Vectors	2.3-7
9/8	Vectors, 2-D Motion	3.1-6
9/15	2-D Kinematics	4.1-6
9/22	Laws of Motion	5.1-7
9/29	TEST 1 – 9/30 (Ch. 1-4) Circular Motion	6.1-5
10/6	Energy of a System	7.1-4
10/13	Conservation of Energy	8.1-4
10/20	October 20 - 21 Fall Break Linear Momentum and Collisions	9.1-6
10/27	Linear Momentum and Collisions Rotational Dynamics	10.1-6
11/3	TEST 2 – 11/4 (Ch. 5-9) Rotational Dynamics	11.1-8
11/10	Angular Momentum	12.1-5
11/17	Static Equilibrium	14.1-8
11/24	Oscillatory Motion November 26 - 28 Thanksgiving Break	16.1-6
12/1	Oscillatory Motion Review	17-18
12/8	Final Exam: 12/9, 5:00 – 7:30 pm	

Academic Integrity

The students and faculty of Christopher Newport University have instituted a strict honor code:

On my honor, I will maintain the highest possible standards of honesty, integrity and personal responsibility. That means I will not lie, cheat, or steal and as a member of this academic community, I am committed to creating an environment of respect and mutual trust.

This class will be run under the aegis of this honor code

Disability Accommodation

If you believe that you have a disability, you should make an appointment to see me to discuss your needs. In order to receive an accommodation, your disability must be on record in Disability Support Services, Room 101, McMurrin Annex (Telephone: 594-8852).