

EASTERN NAZARENE COLLEGE

PY 201 General Physics I

Fall 2008

INSTRUCTOR: John U. Free, john.u.free@enc.edu

HOMEWORK SESSION LEADERS: Jacqueline Gressett, jackqueline.a.gressett@enc.edu
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HOMEWORK GRADERS: WebAssign

LABORATORY ASSISTANTS: Sean Reese, sean.b.reese@enc.edu

**Tell me and I'll forget;
show me and I may remember;
involve me and I will understand.
- CHINESE PROVERB -**

OVERVIEW:

Physics is the study of the physical universe from both the microscopic and macroscopic vantage point. It ultimately seeks an explanation of the nature of matter and its interactions. Like many other disciplines, physics is composed of interacting and overlapping topics (e.g., optics, thermodynamics, and mechanics). This is a yearlong course designed as a survey of all areas of physics and will not only seek to expose you to each discipline but the common threads running throughout apparently disparate topics.

OBJECTIVES:

- * to help students develop an understanding of the physical universe at its most fundamental level
- * to explore a wide range of physics applications in science, technology, and everyday life
- * to see "grand connections" among the various topics in physics
- * to develop students' conceptual skills as applied to problems in science and engineering
- * to develop students' analytical and quantitative skills as applied to problems in science and engineering
- * to help students gain experimental skills in the physical laboratory

REQUIRED TEXT(S):

Physics for Scientists and Engineers, Randall Knight, Pearson Addison Wesley, 2nd ed., 2008.
Student Workbook, Randall Knight, Pearson Addison Wesley, 2nd edition, 2008.

SUPPLEMENTAL TEXT(S):

Is Your Math Ready for Physics, Walter Gleason, W C Brown Publishers, 1993.

COURSE WEB PAGE

There is a course web page linked to my home page located at enc.edu/~john.u.free. Here you will find a link to the course web page under PY 201 General Physics I. You should find all the material needed for the course: syllabus, exam study guides, solution to practice problems,

workbook solutions, old exams. I will also place the Power Point lectures with audio on the course web page.

ATTENDANCE:

Regular attendance is expected. Laxity in this category will negatively affect the daily quiz/attendance component of your grade.

DAILY QUIZZES:

Each class period we will start with a 5 to 10 minute quiz. The class quizzes are designed to help you prepare for class and self evaluate your understanding of the material. To prepare for the daily quizzes you should read the text section assigned on the daily schedule. We will use a system called Turning Point that will allow you to take the quiz electronically using “clickers”. The **lowest three** quizzes will be dropped.

HOMEWORK:

Homework is assigned for each class and can be found on the web at WebAssign (www.webassign.com/). Since assignments are published well before their due date, there is **no excuse for late homework**. Assignments are due **the next class after they are assigned**. For example homework assigned on Monday is due on Wednesday. On exam days the homework is due the next class after the exam. All assigned homework will be submitted and graded by WebAssign.

There are times in the semester when this policy will be a hardship so there is a “grace period”. **Six times during the semester you can turn in a class assignment the next class day after it is due without a penalty. Homework will not be accepted after two class days. All extensions must be requested from WebAssign using the extension option.**

PRACTICE PROBLEMS:

With each homework assignment you have three or four practice problems. These problems are similar to the homework problems but not graded. Working these problems will help you prepare for the homework and exam. You will find the solutions for the practice problems on the course web page.

EXAMS:

There will be three (3) exams throughout the term. The exam will consist of two parts. The first part will be **conceptual** multiple choice questions and **conceptual** short answer questions. The second part will be **problems**. You will find the Exam Study Guides and past exams on the course web page.

FINAL EXAM:

The final exam is a multiple choice exam and scheduled by the registrar. The exam is cumulative and covers material studied throughout the semester. You will also find a PowerPoint review for the final on the course web page.

PROBLEM SOLVING SESSIONS:

You are encouraged to attend the Problem Solving Sessions each week. The sessions are Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings. Perfect attendance at these sessions will help me determine “border line blues” in your grade. The sessions will be totally devoted to problem solving. *To get maximal benefit from these sessions you should attempt to solve the homework*

problems before coming to the sessions. In fact, the instructor will not help you unless you have attempted the problem before the session.

LABORATORY:

PY 201L General Physics Laboratory must be taken concurrently. The purpose of the physics laboratory is to allow the student to examine first-hand the concepts presented in class and to reinforce the empirical nature of physics. Labs are held on Thursday (1:30-4:30) and Friday (2:00-5:00). Each section will have a lab assistant who will have control over the operation and grading of the lab. See the preface of the laboratory manual for more detail.

GRADING:

Your grade will be computed as follows:

Class grade

exams	- 35%	homework	- 30%
quizzes/attendance	- 20%	final	- 15%

Lab grade

prelab or postlab quiz	- 20%	laboratory	- 80%
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OFFICE HOURS:

Office hours this term will be Monday and Wednesday 1:30-3:00; Tuesday and Thursday by appointment. Feel free to stop in anytime I am in the office (Shrader 17) or make an appointment with me, john.u.free@enc.enc or Daniel Messier, daniel.a.messier@enc.edu, the department assistant.

DISSABILITY:

Any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments or accommodations is required to notify me during the first two week of the course. All discussions will remain confidential.

HONOR CODE:

You are required to submit work that is only yours unless you indicate otherwise, and permission from the instructor is granted. It is perfectly acceptable to work in groups on homework, but you must *not* simply copy work from someone else. If you copy work, or submit work that is not your own, you will automatically fail the course.