PHYS 161: General Physics: Mechanics and Particle Dynamics

Fall 2003
Lecture: MWF 10 AM, PHY 1410
Prof. William Dorland (Sections 0301-0304)
http://gk.umd.edu/161
3 credit hours

Discussion sections:
0301 Tues 1:00 PM, PLS 1117
0302 Tues 4:00 PM, PHY 1402
0303 Thur 9:00 AM, PHY 4220
0304 Thur 10:00 AM, PHY 1201

Professor
My office is Room 3325 in the A. V. Williams building. I will be available to meet with you 11–1 PM Mondays and Wednesdays. To arrange a meeting at another time, please arrange by email: bdorland@umd.edu. My phone number is 405-1608.

Teaching Assistant
Buckley Hopper
Office: PHY 4223
Email: hopperb@glue.umd.edu

Prerequisites
This class will use calculus (derivatives & integrals). Pre- or corequisite: MATH 141.

Course Description
First semester of a three-semester calculus-based general physics course. Laws of motion, force, and energy; principles of mechanics, collisions, linear momentum, rotation, and gravitation. Credit will not be granted for PHYS 171 and PHYS 161 or PHYS 141 or former PHYS 191.

Textbook
We will cover chapters 1-11 and 13.

Important dates

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First lecture</td>
<td>Wednesday, Sept. 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline for drop without “W”</td>
<td>Monday, Sept. 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm #1</td>
<td>Monday, Sept. 29</td>
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<td>Midterm #2</td>
<td>Friday, Oct. 31</td>
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<td>Thanksgiving holiday</td>
<td>Friday, Nov. 28</td>
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<td>Midterm #3</td>
<td>Monday, Dec. 1</td>
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<td>Last class</td>
<td>Friday, Dec. 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final examination</td>
<td>Saturday, Dec. 20, 8:00-10:00 AM</td>
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Grading

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework (may drop 2)</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes (may drop 3)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterms (may drop 1)</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>20%</td>
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Note:
Final letter grades will be affected by overall class performance. There will be no extra credit opportunities.

Disabilities
Students with a specific disability (permanent or temporary, physical or learning) needing special accommodation during the semester should make an appointment to meet with the professor as soon as possible.
Homework will be assigned and completed online, using the WebAssign system. **You must come to my office to get your username and password.** Homework assignments will be available at least one week in advance. Due dates will be shown on WebAssign.

There will be approximately 14 homework assignments, and your lowest two homework grades will be dropped. No late homework will be accepted. No excuses will be accepted.

Work out the problems on paper *before* submitting your answers electronically. Attempt the homework early by yourself so you’ll know what you do and don’t understand. Then discuss the problems with the TA or your study group.

Doing the homework is an essential part of learning physics. For this reason, homework is a significant portion of your grade. You are encouraged to work together with other students in small groups to complete the homework. However, you must make sure you are learning the exercises, and not simply copying the answers or formulas. Cheating will ultimately lead to your downfall on the exams.

Many discussion section meetings will involve short quizzes, typically consisting of one or two problems that are similar to the week’s homework assignment. There may also be quizzes given during lecture. You will be able to drop the lowest three quiz grades you receive.

Exams will be closed book, with crib sheets and calculators allowed. Practice exams will be available online before the real exams.

If you have a reason why you cannot attend an exam (religious holiday, official University business), see the instructor *before* the exam! Only medical emergencies will be considered as excuses after the exams. If you miss an exam with a valid excuse, a makeup exam will be given. Makeup exams may be oral.

Along with certain rights, students also have the responsibility to behave honorably in an academic environment. Academic dishonesty, including cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any abridgement of academic integrity standards will be referred directly to the Assistant Dean and forwarded to the University’s Office of Judicial Affairs. Confirmation of such incidents can result in expulsion from the University. Students who are uncertain as to what constitutes academic dishonesty should consult the University publication entitled Academic Dishonesty.

The Slawsky clinic is located in Physics 1208 and 1214. You can get free tutoring on Physics 161 there! Go to the clinic to find out the hours for Physics 161 tutoring this semester.

The Learning Assistance Service (2201 Shoemaker Bldg., 314-7693) can help student having difficulty with academic demands. Counselors can help with time management, reading, note taking, and exam preparation skills.

1) Ask questions freely during lecture. There is no need to raise your hand. 2) Turn off your cell phone in class. I really don’t like them. 3) Form a study group early and work on the homework.