COURSE POLICY AND OUTLINE - DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

COURSE: PHY 1020 Conceptual Physics (Internet Course)

TERM: Summer 2010


The Conceptual Physics Media Update, 10th Edition E-book is a convenient, online version of the textbook which features full-size JPEGs of all images in the text, hyperlinks to Interactive Figures™, Interactive Tutorials™, and Videos, pop-up Vocabulary Terms, search functionality, an Annotation tool, and more.

INSTRUCTOR: Laszlo J. Ujj, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Physics

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OFFICE HOURS: by appointment. Send an email.

I'm around most of the time. Feel free to stop by with questions or comments (except the hour before my other classes!), or check after class, by email, etc., for a definite time to come by.

STUDENT'S LEARNING OUTCOME:

This course teaches physics on a descriptive level. The main goal is to learn the important concepts necessary to describe the laws of nature. The mathematical tools necessary to understand the relationships among physical quantities, involved in the laws of physics, are not more than you have learned in high school.

Three main subjects of physics are discussed during the course: Classical Mechanics, Properties of Matter, and Heat. After completing the assignments and tutorials of these chapters you will be able to read and understand other territories of physics included into your text book.

Classical Mechanics is the science of motion of macroscopic bodies. You will learn the three laws of Newton and the concepts of momentum and energy. Rotational motion, gravity, and satellite motion are also discussed. The subject of the properties of matter starts with the knowledge of atomic and molecular nature of matter than explains the microscopic and macroscopic properties of solids, liquids, gases, and plasmas. You will study Archimedes’s, Pascal’s, and Bernoulli’s principles. The chapter of Heat introduces
the concepts of temperature, heat, heat transfer, and the transformations of phases, like e.g. boiling or freezing. The last subsection called Thermodynamics is recommended for reading; however it is not required to complete the conceptual physics class.

WITHDRAWALS: UWF policy requires that students submit to Records and Registration a completed withdrawal form to withdraw from courses, which is a different policy than that used by some other institutions (see the 2009-2010 Catalog of UWF).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: This is a self-learning course with the help of the educational material posted on the Internet (www.physicsplace.com) and with the help of the instructor if it is necessary. Students can learn the concepts of physics at their own pace within the limits of the due dates of the course. You will be responsible to learn chapters 1 through 17 from the book.

HOMEWORK: You have to turn in the main quiz of each chapter from 2 to 17 of the textbook (except the first week: chapter 1) from the www.physicsplace.com web site (16 quizzes all). See the Physicsplace.com login instructions and login. Select the assigned chapter of the week from the roll down menu. Click QUIZ and complete the quiz than submit it to grading. Your result will be recorded in the Result Reporter and in my grade book. You can complete the quiz as many times as you wish, however, I will grade only the first and best attempt of your answer at the end of the class and average them. So, take your time to find the right answer.

As you complete activities on the website after you have joined the class (with the class code provided by me on the elearning web page of the course) on physicsplace.com through the class's end date, your results will post to my (your instructor) grade-book, in addition, in your personal view in the Result Reporter. Your final grade will be based on these reports. The quizzes will be due at the posted dates by Sunday's midnight. No excuses. You should be able to solve the quizzes if you have read the appropriate chapter of the book, solved the tutorials from the web site, and read and understand the Question/Answer section of each chapter of the book.

FINAL EXAM: The final exam of this class will be fully online. You will have a set date and time when the exam will be available and you'll complete the exam within a certain time limit. This is a comprehensive exam of chapters 1-17.

COURSE GRADING: The grading procedure: The 16 quizzes worth 50%. Class Activity is 10% and the final exam adds another 40% to your final grade.

Class Activity: You are required to solve ten (10) tutorial quizzes or lessons, and provide a proof that you have done them. You can submit these to the Result Reporter of Physicsplace.com or copy pages to an email and send them to me with your NAME written on the email. Please, click the SUMMARY label on the tutorial page to get instructions, how to record your tutorial in the Result Reporter or just hit the Quit (Q) button to initiate the log process. There are more than ten tutorials and lessons and you choose those ones you would like to solve. I will grade them for completion only. This will add a maximum 10 % to your final grade. You can submit these any time during the semester before the date of the final exam. No quiz will be accepted after the date of the final exam.
The grade scale is: 100-90.1% = A, 90%-85.1% = A-, 85%-80.1% = B+, 80-73.1 = B, 73-70.1% = B-, 70%-67.1% = C+, 67-63.1% = C, 63-61.1% = C-, 61-51.1% = D, 0-51% = F

Example: If you get 80% for all of your homework problems, 10% for class activity and get 80% for the final exam you will have 82% final average, which is a B+ letter grade. You have to take the final exam otherwise you will get an INCOMPLETE or an F grade.

Expectations for Academic Conduct/Plagiarism Policy:

As members of the University of West Florida, we commit ourselves to honesty. As we strive for excellence in performance, integrity—personal and institutional—is our most precious asset. Honesty in our academic work is vital, and we will not knowingly act in ways that erode that integrity. Accordingly, we pledge not to cheat, nor to tolerate cheating, nor to plagiarize the work of others. We pledge to share community resources in ways that are responsible and that comply with established policies of fairness. Cooperation and competition are means to high achievement and are encouraged. Indeed, cooperation is expected unless our directive is to individual performance. We will compete constructively and professionally for the purpose of stimulating high performance standards. Finally, we accept adherence to this set of expectations for academic conduct as a condition of membership in the UWF academic community.

Please, read also Approved Academic Misconduct Policy and Student Code of Conduct at


ASSISTANCE:
Students with special needs who require specific examination-related or other course-related accommodations should contact Barbara Fitzpatrick, Director of Disabled Student Services (DSS), dss@uwf.edu, (850) 474-2387. DSS will provide the student with a letter for the instructor that will specify any recommended accommodations.