PHYSICS 1100 Sections 1, 2, 3 & 4 – Fall 2012

Instructor: Dr. Raymond Chastain   **Section 1 & 4:** 9:00 – 10:20 TR (130 Nicholson Hall)
Office: 351 Nicholson   **Section 2:**   12:00 – 1:20 TR (130 Nicholson Hall)
Phone: 578-2741   **Section 3:**   3:00 – 4:20 TR (143 Coates Hall)
e-mail: chastain@phys.lsu.edu

Tentative Office Hours: TR 10:45 – 11:45 AM or by appointment

Teaching Assitant: Amber Lauer   **e-mail:** alauer1@tigers.lsu.edu
Office: **Office Hours:** M 2:00 – 4:00 PM
                                                                                       W 2:00 – 3:00 PM
                                                                                       F 9:00 – 11:00 AM

Class Website: http://www.phys.lsu.edu/classes/fall2012/phys1100/
                                  (Note, this is <u>not</u> the homework website.)

> This webpage contains the information in the course syllabus. For the day-to-day details of the course (including the course schedule and hand-in homework assignments), ***check the course Moodle page***.

Course:
- The goal of this course is to prepare students to succeed in PHYS 2101 and 2102. As a result, we will focus on building the particular skills that are needed in introductory physics, but that often cause students difficulties.
- In order to enroll in PHYS 1100, you must have credit for, or be registered in, MATH 1550. If you do not meet this requirement you must receive explicit, written approval from the Associate Chairman of the Physics Department in order to remain in this class.
- This is "calculus-based physics." But those of you just now starting your calculus study – don't panic. You won't need your calculus skills immediately. But by mid-term you will be expected to be able to use derivatives in problem solving. By the end of the course you will need to use integrals.
- To advance to PHYS 2101 you must have credit for PHYS 1100, either by placement examination or by taking this course and earning a grade of "C" or better.

Required Text: Fundamentals of Physics, by Halliday, Resnick, and Walker, custom 9th edition.
- The custom edition only contains material relevant to Physics 1100 and 2101. However, it comes bundled with a *WebAssign* access code, which you will need for the homework assignments. You can also use the regular edition, which contains all the chapters needed for Physics 1100, 2101, and 2102, but the regular edition does not come with *WebAssign* access, which will need to be purchased separately.
- ***You are expected to have looked over the material in the book before coming to class.*** I will indicate which sections in the book you need to have read prior to the next lecture.

Exams:
- **This course will have three exams during the semester and a final exam. Each exam during the semester will be worth 100 points. All three exams will be computer based and need to be taken in the Computer Testing Labs on campus, located in Himes Hall. You will need to schedule a time to take the test with the Office of Assessment and Evaluation (**www.cae.lsu.edu/default.asp**). Each exam will take place during the following set of dates:**

> **Wednesday, September 12 – Friday, September 14**
> **Wednesday, October 10 – Friday, October 12**
> **Wednesday, November 7 – Friday, November 9**

- **No exam score will be dropped**. The final exam **will not** be used to replace a lowest exam score.
- ***You are responsible for scheduling your own exam and making sure you show up to take it***. For each test, there is a three day window for you to find a time that fits into your schedule. It is in your interest to schedule your exam time well ahead of time and early in the three day window. ***Lack of planning on your part does not constitute an emergency on mine.***
- The three examinations during the semester will be multiple-choice in format, with 12-15 questions, comprising both conceptual (qualitative) thinking and computational (quantitative) problems. You will have 90 minutes for the exam.
- No computers, beepers, pagers, cellular phones or other communication devices are allowed in the Testing Center. You may ***not*** use the calculator within one of these devices. You will need a scientific calculator; graphic calculators are fine, but not necessary.

THERE WILL BE <u>NO</u> SCHEDULED MAKE-UP EXAMS

If you have permission to miss a test, you MUST notify me prior to the exam. Failure to notify me prior to the exam will result in a score of zero on that exam.

Final Exam:
- The final exam for this course will be from **3:00 – 5:00 PM on Thursday, December 6. YOU WILL *NOT* TAKE THE FINAL EXAM IN THE TESTING CENTER.**   Where you will go to take the final exam will be posted later in the semester.
- The final exam will be multiple-choice in format, with about 20-25 questions, comprising both conceptual (qualitative) thinking and computational (quantitative) problems. You will have 2 hours for the final exam.
- A Scantron® will be provided for you at the final exam. You will need a #2 pencil to record your answers.
- No computers, beepers, pagers, cellular phones or other communication devices are allowed. You may **not** use the calculator within one of these devices. You will need a scientific calculator; graphic calculators are fine, but not necessary.

Online Homework:
- Homework assignments will be online at: http://webassign.net/student.html
- The due date for each assignment is listed on Webassign. Assignments will be due at 9:00 PM.
- You will need to register on-line to get into the class on Webassign. When logging on to the website for the first time, click the link for "I have a class key" and enter the key that you were given in class. When you self-enroll into WebAssign you may choose your own username (your PAWS username is the most convenient) and password, *but be sure to enter your full name exactly as it appears in LSU registration records.* Protect your privacy - don't use your SS number or LSU ID number as your password or username.
- It is essential that you solve the homework problems to ensure that you understand the concepts and to strengthen your math skills. ***Working on the online homework is designed to be where you focus on the learning how to work the problems. Resources are available, and feel free to use them, but it is imperative that you figure out FOR YOURSELF how to work the problems.***
- For full credit on the online homework, you need to amass one-half of the total points for all the problems assigned in Webassign for the semester. I do not do this because homework is unimportant. In fact, just the opposite is true. ***You cannot pass this class if you cannot work homework problems* ON YOUR OWN**. You only need to get one-half of the possible points because homework is so important that I will include additional problems in each homework set for you to work as practice. Full credit (meaning 100%) is the maximum possible value for the homework – there is no "extra-credit" for scores better than 67% of the total number of points.
- *Complete problem set solutions will not be posted.* It is your responsibility to make sure you find out how to solve the problems on each assignment.

Group Work:
- During each class, there will be small assignments for you to work on with other students in the class. For each group work assignment, I will *randomly* call for the work from (at least) one of the groups in the room and project it using the document camera at the front of the room. We will use the work of your group as the basis for discussing the solution to the assignment. *At the end of class*, all remaining groups will be expected to turn in their work for the assignment as you leave.
- Group work assignments will be graded on a [2, 1, 0] scale (full credit, partial credit, no credit). Your overall group work grade will be based on the number of points your group earned out of the total number of possible points you could have earned.

Bonus Exams:
- You will have the opportunity to take two bonus exams. You can take both exams at the Testing Center. The first exam will be offered at the end of the second week of classes. The second exam will be offered at the end of the final week of classes.

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Bonus Test 1: Wednesday, August 29 – Friday, August 31
Bonus Test 2: Wednesday, November 28 – Friday, November 30

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- The first exam will be worth 10 points. The second exam will be worth 15 points. ***Though I am interested in you doing as well on the exam as possible, you will receive full credit by taking the exam, regardless of how well you do on the test.***
- To schedule a time to take each Bonus Test, contact the Office of Evaluation and Assessment through their website (www.cae.lsu.edu/default.asp).

Stupid Points:

- You start the semester with 10 stupid points. These are not points you can earn, only points you can lose. As a general rule, you lose stupid points by doing things which show that you are not taking care of your responsibilities as a student.
- Things you can do to lose stupid points (this list is not exclusive):
    - Send me an email or call me in my office asking a question whose answer is clearly posted on Moodle or the course webpage, can be looked up on the LSU website, has been sent to your lsu.edu email account, or has been discussed multiple times in class. ("When is the next test?", "When is our homework due?", "Do we have a hand-in assignment this week?", "When is the final?", "Is there any extra credit?"…)
    - Send me an email that does not include your name, your class (PHYS 1100), or your section
    - Having your computer or your phone out in class
    - Miss class and email me to ask if we did anything important
    - Miss class and email me to ask if I can teach you what you missed

If you try hard enough, you can lose more than the ten stupid points you started with.
Negative stupid points are possible, but highly undesirable!

Grading:

- Online Homework (1/2 of assigned points) – 40 pts.
- CBT Exams – 100 pts. each
- Final Exam – 150 pts.
- Group Work – 25 pts.
- Bonus Exams – 25 pts.
- "Stupid Points" – up to 10 pts.

Your final grade will be based upon the total number of points you receive out of the 550 total points possible.

| **A**: 495 | **B**: 440 | **C**: 330 | **D**: 275 | **F**: < 275 |

If the total number of points you receive is greater than the point values listed above, then you are guaranteed the associated letter grade. ***In general, there will be <u>no curving</u> of individual exam grades***. It is theoretically possible for everyone in the class to get an A (or an F). Your performance depends only on how you do, not on how everyone else in the class does. In the end, the grade you earn will be based on your performance, not you.

I will not discuss your grade in this class either through E-mail or over the phone. If you have a question about your grade, come see me in person.

If I don't see you to talk about your grade during the semester, then I don't want to see you after the semester is over because you are unhappy with your grade.

Important Dates:

- Tuesday, August 28 – Final date for dropping courses without receiving a grade of "W"
- Wednesday, August 29 – Final date for adding courses for credit and making section changes
- Thursday & Friday, October 18 & 19 – *No class* – Fall Break
- Friday, November 2 – Final date for resigning from the University and/or dropping courses
- Thursday & Friday, November 22 & 23 – *No class* – Thanksgiving holiday

Additional Resources:

- **Supplemental Instruction:** Ryan Jeansonne will be the Supplemental Instructor for this course. Historically, students in PHYS 1100 have benefitted from participating in the SI program. The times and locations of SI sessions will be posted in the SI section on the Moodle page for the course. In addition, contact information for Ryan, including the times and locations of his office hours, and any additional material to be used in the SI sessions.
- **Tutoring:** If you do not understand the material or you experience difficulty in working the problems, tutoring is provided by the Center for Academic Success. This service is free. Tutors are available in Nicholson 102 (for physics only) and Middleton 141B (for multiple subjects). Check with the CAS website for when this service is available (http://cas.lsu.edu/tutorial-centers).