

Concepts of Physics Fall 2017

Section	PHYS-010.-01 CRN: 02083
Instructor	Dr. Kashi Nath
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Cell	650 561 5003
Office	S13
Office Hours	Friday 10:20 – 11:10am and by appointment
Lecture Hours	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, and Friday 9:30 -10:20am
Lecture Room	S11
Textbook	Conceptual Physics, 12 th Edition, Hewitt (Earlier Edition or eBook may also serve the purpose)
Prerequisite:	MATH 114 or equivalent; or a qualifying score on the Intermediate Algebra Placement Test.

• **Student Learning Outcome:** Critically examine new, previously un-encountered problems, analyzing and evaluating their constituent parts, to construct and explain a logical solution utilizing, and based upon, the fundamental laws of physics in general.

- This course will explore the structure of physics from a purely conceptual standpoint. Few mathematical techniques will be used to express the rationale of our universe, instead, verbal logic will be employed. Few numerical calculations will be performed. Although it may sound easier to study physics without mathematics, actually this is a challenging goal and requires a skillful and precise use of language. We will start with mechanics and study motion, Newton's laws, energy, and momentum. Then pretty much we will follow the text and will study the properties of matter, heat, electricity and magnetism, light, atomic and nuclear physics and time permitting relativity will be treated briefly.
- **Exams:** There will be three exams. Two midterms and a final. Each midterm exam (except the final exam) will normally focus on the newest material, but not be limited to the new material only. You are allowed to miss one midterm exam, but in this situation your grade for this missed exam will be 80% of the average of the other two exams. If you appear in all exams, then the lowest midterm grade will be replaced with the average of the other two exam grades. So the advice is - do not miss any exam. There is no make up exam. If you miss the final exam your grade will be a 'D' or an 'F', depending on your past performance.
- **Attendance Policy:** Your class attendance is very important. Without prior arrangement, you are allowed five absences per quarter. The number of absences beyond five will affect your course grade. You are responsible for all of the information presented in the class. I may drop students with excessive absences. However, non-attendance does not guarantee your being dropped. If you need to drop the course, it is your responsibility to do so.
- **Conduct:** Be on time and do not leave early. Your cell phone should be off and put away during class. Off is off, not vibrate mode. If your cell phone rings/vibrates during a quiz/exam, you will get an automatic zero, no discussion. Use of lap-tops, computers, cameras, etc. are not permitted, except for the use of eBook.
- **Quizzes:** Regular quizzes will be given in the beginning of the class and/or during the class. No makeup quizzes will be given. You get to drop two lowest score quizzes. If you miss a quiz, it counts as your lowest score that you get to drop.
- A score of zero point will be given if a student has been found cheating. No cell phones will be allowed out in view during the exam; doing so will constitute cheating on the exam.
- You will be graded on the *union* of the information provided in the lecture and from the assigned text readings. The grades will be given on the traditional percentages:

A: 90-100%; B: 80-89%; C: 60-79%; D: 50-60%;

F: not given unless an exam is missed or attendance is unacceptable

The grade distribution is as follows :

Quizzes and class participation: 15%

Exams 1 and 2: 25% each

Final (comprehensive): 35%

There may be opportunities to earn extra points.

Important Dates:

Friday, Nov. 10 :: Veterans Day (classes will be held on Nov. 11), **Thursday - Sunday, Nov. 23- 26** :: Thanksgiving Holiday
Sunday, Oct. 8 :: Last day to drop for a full refund or credit (for 12-weeks, quarter-length classes). **More details on MyPortal**

Exam 1 (on topics taught from beginning to the day before Exam 1): Monday – October 16

Exam 2 (on topics taught after Exam 1 to the day before Exam 2): Monday – November 13

Final Exam (comprehensive – all topics taught): Tuesday, December 12, 9:15-11:15am.

There will be no makeup exams. If you miss the Final Exam you get a 'D' or an 'F'