

PHY 121.01, Fall 2017 Course Syllabus

Physics 121.01 has one section which meets Tues. and Thurs 8:30 - 9:50 AM in Javits 100 and a lab component which meets once per week per section. An echo recording of the class periods will be available. We cover the material in Ch. 1 – 16 of the text book (see below).

Instructors

The Phy121 instructors are:

- Sec. 01, Prof. John Hobbs, Physics D139, 632-8107. John.Hobbs_at_stonybrook.edu
- Sec. 01, Prof. Michael Wilking, Physics D106, 632-8087. Michael.Wilking_at_stonybrook.edu
- Lab, Prof. Richard Lefferts, <http://phylabs1.physics.sunysb.edu/introlabs/Fall2017/PHY121.html>
- Office hours: See Help Room schedule.

For the actual email addresses substitute @ for (at). The best way to reach your instructors is by email; put Phy121 somewhere in the subject line of your message to get their attention. They get hundreds of emails every day.

Blackboard

Most of the course administration will be done via Blackboard. Please make sure that you have access to your Stony Brook Blackboard account, that this course is listed there (in 1st week of classes for sure), and that the email address listed in your Blackboard account is one that you monitor. You have to register your “clicker” via Blackboard; see below.

Calendar

The calendar shows the material that will be covered in each workshop, the labs that will be running in a particular week and the dates of the exams. You can find it on the Black Board course calendar.

Firsts for this Semester:

- First *Clickers* for credit (clicker must be registered in Blackboard): 9/12 (Dry run: 9/7)
- First *Homework* for class due (submitted online): 9/8; First bonus, 9/7.
- First *Lab Session in lab*: Week of 9/11 (Note: there is an online lab the week of 8/28)
- First Help Room shift staffed: 9/6

Format of course

Class meeting time is used for a combination of lecture, problem solving examples and clicker quizzes in class for credit (10% of grade). You should come to the workshop prepared because you have read the lecture notes and worked on (maybe not yet finished) the homework assignment. The workshop will be used to review material, and for questions/quizzes you answer with response pads by Turning Point Technologies (“clickers”).

Required clickers are from Turning Point Technologies. They are available in the campus bookstore. More information is below.

Required Homework problems will be assigned using an online system called [Mastering Physics](#). Additional information is given in the Homework section below.

Laboratory

The laboratory is mandatory. There are ten lab sessions during the semester. All lab grades count; none are dropped. If you have an excused absence from your regular lab period, there will be several scheduled make-up lab times when you can make up one lab (each time) that you have missed. You need to make up a missed lab in the make-up week that lab is available (see course schedule, not all labs are available every make up week). If you cannot meet this schedule due to exceptional circumstances (such as documented illness or death in the immediate family), discuss with your lab instructor and **schedule a make-up lab with him/her**.

If you have a valid and documented excuse for missing your regularly scheduled lab session, contact your TA immediately by email. Make-up periods are scheduled for groups of labs; you may make-up a lab you missed for a valid reason only during the particular makeup period that includes that lab! To repeat: **Any student missing one in-lab session and not making it up at the makeup session that is specifically scheduled to include that particular missed lab will have the letter grade for PHY 121 dropped by one letter! Any student missing more two or more in-lab sessions will fail PHY 121! This has happened to students in previous semesters; make sure you are not one of them. Note well: you cannot make up a particular missed lab at just any of the three make-up in-lab sessions that are scheduled: you must go to the specific in-lab make-up session that is scheduled to include that particular missed lab.**

There is a rigorous cap in each lab which will not be exceeded. If you cannot get the lab you want, we suggest that you register for an open lab and hope to rearrange with a section switch once classes start. But you must attend the lab for which you are registered until you have made such a switch. If you do make a switch after the 4th week of semester you must email Prof. Lefferts to let him know, otherwise credit you received for any labs before the semester may be lost!

Clickers

The bookstore sells clickers. Whether you buy one new or reuse one from a previous semester you need to register it through Blackboard. Follow the instructions (in the Black Board documents area) to register your clicker. If your clicker breaks or you lose it, you must register the replacement again. We will have a couple of clicker dry runs (no credit, see schedule below) to check the registration process. All clicker problems must be sorted out by 5:00 PM Sep. 11. **We will not go back and retroactively transfer scores because of clicker problems.** This is in part why we drop a number of clicker days (see below).

During the workshop, when you are working on one of the quizzes, you may discuss the problem quietly with your immediate neighbors. This is intended to help you understand the problem and solve it. “The answer is C” is not the kind of discussion intended here - you deprive yourself of the opportunity to learn and prepare yourself for the exams.

One person operating more than 1 clicker (i.e. doing your friend’s clicker for them) is clear academic dishonesty, and will result in a course grade of F and report to the Academic Judiciary for the owners of both clickers.

Bring a calculator to the workshop. It should be able to do trig functions, square root, log, exponential notation. You do not need a fancy graphing calculator. You will also need your calculator for the exams. Your calculator is an important tool for the course, and you should be familiar with it. Calculators may not be shared in the exams. You may not use the calculator function of a cell phone or PDA in the exams.

There are no recitations. The workshop functions as a recitation, insofar as you are guided towards learning how to solve problems on the material in the lecture notes (posted to BB in advance) and in the homework problems

Homework and (optional) Textbook

Homework problems will be assigned using an online system called Mastering Physics. You get there from “Assignments” in Blackboard or directly at masteringphysics.com. The course ID is **MPHOBBS96017**, and the corresponding textbook is “*College Physics*” by Knight, Field and Jones, 3rd edition. There will be online problems assigned separately for each Tues/Thurs workshop day (e.g. Ch3_1 and Ch3_2, sync’d to the course calendar). However, both homework assignments for a given week are actually due at 11:59 PM on Friday.

You should attempt the problems BEFORE each workshop, so that you can get the maximum benefit from class participation and receive a good workshop grade. To reward early effort, a 20% bonus is given for all problems submitted by 8 pm the day before the corresponding workshop. It is a true bonus, applied at the end of the term after fixing the course curve. This bonus for each homework will not appear in Mastering or in Blackboard. The total bonus will appear in Blackboard at the end of the semester.

Along with the Mastering Physics online homework license there are several text book options available: (1) when you buy the home work license, you have the option to buy an electronic version of the text book at the same time. This is the most common and cheapest choice. (2) If you prefer to buy a printed text, it is available in the campus bookstore. If you purchase the text, you automatically get the online homework license, so if you choose this option, buy the text before the online registration.

Getting help

To help you with questions related to your homework problems and the laboratory, the **Help Room, Physics A131**, will be staffed by personnel from this course, full time to the extent that we can. The schedule will be posted on the help room and on Blackboard before the 2nd week of classes.

Exams

Two Midterm exams are scheduled 8:45-10:15 **PM** on Mon. Oct.9 and Thurs. Nov. 9. The **final exam** is Thurs. Dec. 14 at 2:15-5:00 **PM**. You have to make sure there are no conflicts in your schedule – we cannot grant a makeup exam. The registrar's policy that students have responsibility for avoiding exam conflicts is crystal clear, and exceptions will not be granted in this course. If you cannot take a midterm due to exceptional circumstances (documented illness or death in the immediate family), discuss with the instructor as soon as possible. We will increase the weights of the other parts of the course accordingly but not have make up exams. If you miss the final with a valid excuse, you will receive an Incomplete in the course and a makeup final will be scheduled as promptly as possible after the end of the semester. The exams will be multiple choice, graded via scantron sheets (fill in the bubble with a #2 pencil).

Grades

Your final grade will be based on the following.

- 15% Homework
- 10% Clicker score
- 15% **Each** of two midterms
- 25% Labs
- 20% Final Exam

The lowest 5 daily clicker and lowest 3 homework scores will be dropped when grading. No lab scores will be dropped.

There are no extra credit or other special supplementary assignments available, beyond the early bird bonus described above. Your course grade is based on the same exams, workshop, homework, and labs as everybody else. Please do not embarrass yourself by coming to the instructors at the end of the semester and saying that you need to receive a particular grade higher than the one you earned. You will have plenty of feedback about your performance as the course proceeds.

Academic Honesty

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. In this course, the standards are as follows. In workshop, when a “clicker” question is posed, you may discuss it with your neighbors. However, one person operating more than 1 clicker is cheating, and will result in a course grade of F and report to the Academic Judiciary for the owners of both clickers. You may work with your colleagues on the pre-workshop quizzes, the homework problems and the preparation parts of the lab reports. However, please note that you only hurt yourself if you submit answers that you get from somebody else and you do not understand. In lab, you and your partner are collecting the same data, and you may discuss subsequent steps of analysis with your partner and other people. However, you may not submit data that you did not participate in collecting as if it were your own. Doing so will result in a course grade of F. In an exam, copying answers from another person or use of materials or communication other than what is allowed by the instructors will result in an F in the course.

Standard University Policy

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION POLICY FOR ALL STONY BROOK STUDENTS: Email to your University email account is an important way of communicating with you for this course. For most students the email address is ‘firstname.lastname@stonybrook.edu’, and the account can be accessed here: <http://www.stonybrook.edu/mycloud>. **It is your responsibility to read your email received at this account.**

For instructions about how to verify your University email address see this: <http://it.stonybrook.edu/help/kb/checking-or-changing-your-mail-forwarding-address-in-the-epo> . You can set up email forwarding using instructions here: <http://it.stonybrook.edu/help/kb/setting-up-mail-forwarding-in-google-mail> . **If you choose to forward your University email to another account, we are not responsible for any undeliverable messages.**

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY. Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty are required to report any suspected instance of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/academic_integrity/index.html

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES (DSS). If you have a physical, psychological, medical, or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Disability Support Services, ECC (Educational Communications Center) Building, room 128, (631) 632-6748 or <http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/dss/>. They will determine with you what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

CRITICAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT. Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Judicial Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, and/or inhibits students' ability to learn.