

PHYSICS 2110: Calculus-based Physics I
Information and Policy Statement for Section 002
Fall Semester, 2009

INSTRUCTOR: Raymond L. Kozub (<http://iweb.tntech.edu/rkozub/>)

OFFICE: BR 227C

COMMUNICATIONS: 372-3479 (my office); 372-3483 (Physics Dept. office); rkozub@tntech.edu.

OFFICE HOURS: Flexible. Please see my office door or web page for details.

COREQUISITE: MATH 1920

TEXT: *Essential University Physics*, Volume 1 by Richard Wolfson, with Mastering Physics online homework

METHODS: Lectures, discussions, demonstrations, computer simulations, private consultation--whatever it takes!

OBJECTIVES: The main objective is to learn some of the basic concepts and principles of physics and how to use them to better understand natural phenomena. Conceptual understanding, logical reasoning, and problem solving will be emphasized, as such knowledge and skills are necessary in order to be a creative, productive scientist or engineer. Please note, *this does not mean that you can confine your efforts to rote memorization and single-formula computations*. You must learn the basic ideas well enough so that, when necessary, you are able to put combinations of physical laws together to solve the given puzzle or explain the phenomenon. I strongly suggest you read the Preface to the Student in your textbook.

ATTENDANCE: *You are expected to attend all lectures, and you are responsible for lecture content and all other information given out during these periods* (e.g., announcements/assignments). I have begun the practice of making my lecture notes accessible to students. So, if you have trouble trying to take notes in class and listen at the same time, *give priority to listening*; we can fill in the blanks later. You should try to take notes on demonstrations and simulations, however, as they may not be described in detail even in my notes. You should recopy your notes and study them and the relevant textbook material before tackling assigned questions or problems.

HOMEWORK AND QUIZZES: As described on the course syllabus, homework will be assigned, answered, and graded using the web-based Mastering Physics homework service that comes with your textbook. During the first class of the semester, you will be given information on how to access the homework assignments. In addition, for practice, you should do some of the Exercises and Problems given in your textbook. You should also read the relevant portions of your textbook before each class period; **5% of your grade (1/3 of your homework grade) will be derived from your scores on "reading quizzes" that I plan to give on a daily basis using the Classroom Performance System (CPS)**. CPS RF response pads are available at the campus bookstore if you do not already have one. Instructions for registering your response pad in this class through CPSOnline have been sent to you via email. ***You need not provide a student ID for this registration, but if you do, use your "T number," NOT your SSN!*** At least four quizzes (~25 min each) will be given during the semester. One quiz grade will be dropped. ***PLEASE NOTE:*** On quizzes and exams, all solutions or answers must be accompanied by proper units, proper significant figures, and *an explanation* that is sufficient to convince the grader that you understand the concept involved. (It is not practical for us to require that for homework, owing to its computerized format.) Quizzes and exams may involve both conceptual questions and problems.

HELP: *You are strongly encouraged to seek the instructor's help outside of class in order to better understand the physical concepts and in doing homework assignments.* Never mind if I seem to be busy--*helping students is my highest priority!* And do not worry about asking what may seem to be "stupid questions;" no one is going to laugh at you. (Indeed, the real stupidity lies in *not* asking, for that simply impedes your learning progress!)

OTHER: I expect to communicate with you via email, so please be sure to check your email at least once per day, and be sure your disk quota is not exceeded. Please see your syllabus for information regarding grade weights, grading scale, examinations, help sessions, and the laboratory (PHYS 2111). Duplicates of the course syllabus and this policy statement can be obtained from my web page (<http://iweb.tntech.edu/rkozub/>). This course, in conjunction with PHYS 2111, meets the general education outcomes for natural sciences courses; those outcomes are listed at http://www.tntech.edu/gened/learnoutcomes_natsci.html. Students with a disability requiring accommodations should contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS). An Accommodation Request (AR) should be completed as soon as possible, preferably by the end of the first week of the course. The ODS is located in the Roaden University Center, Room 112; phone 372-6119.

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