

Physics 4A SYLLABUS

- **Schedule # 55214 Fall 2018**
- **Lecture class: Monday & Wednesday 9 - 11 AM PHY 70**
 - **Lab class: Friday 8 - 11 PHY 70**

Contact Information:

- Instructor Name: Lauren J. Novatne
- Phone Number: 638 – 3641 ext. 3434
- Email: lauren.novatne@reedleycollege.edu

Office hours:

- Monday 8 - 8:50 and 11 -11:50, Wednesday 8-8:50
Thursday 11- 11:50 AM, and Friday 11-11:50

Required Course Materials:

- Textbook: “**Physics for Scientists and Engineers with Modern Physics**”, Giancoli, 4th edition, Pearson/Prentice Hall Publishers

Course Objective:

This course covers the topics of classical mechanics, properties of matter, gravitation, fluid mechanics, oscillatory motion and mechanical waves.

Students will gain skills in understand the complementary roles of experimental investigation and theoretical explanation in science, apply dimensional analysis to determine the units for an unknown quantity or to check the validity of equations, correctly report the units of an observable when it is measured or calculated and distinguish between important physical observables, such as velocity, acceleration and force.

Calendar:

- Holidays: Monday September 3rd, Monday November 1st, Thursday and Friday November 22nd & 23rd
- December 10th – 14th: Final Exams

- **LAST DAY TO DROP THIS CLASS: FRIDAY October 12th. AFTER THAT DATE, I MUST GIVE YOU A GRADE!!**

- **Final Exam: Wednesday December 12th at 9 AM in PHY 70 – the room where the class is held.**

Exams:

There will be two midterm exams and one final exam. The exams have conceptual questions that are multiple choice in format. There are also some detailed physics problems that will need to be solved. The exams contribute **70%** of your semester grade, so they are very important to prepare for. Make up exams are not available except in **documented extreme conditions**. Notes from doctors or police officers (for car accidents) or jury summons will be the type of documentation accepted to allow a make-up exam. If you know that you will not be present in class for a scheduled exam, you must contact me PRIOR to the end of the class session within which the exam is given. Make up exams will be offered only for the occasion of your illness, a jury summons or an emergency (such as an auto accident). Otherwise, you will not be offered a make up exam.

There are occasionally some activities and quizzes given in class, some are announced, and others are not. If you do not communicate with me ***PRIOR TO THE END OF THE CLASS MEETING TIME*** that you are not going to be present in class, then you will receive a score of ZERO for that quiz, and **you will not be able to make up the activity or quiz**. You may inform me in person, by phone (leave a message on my voice mail if I don't answer the phone), or by email. **Sending a message through a classmate or friend disqualifies you from the exemption**. This is YOUR grade, so YOU must communicate with me regarding your ability to be present. **I do NOT want to know why you will miss class – just that you will not be present**. You will only be able to use three "passes" for the entire semester. After you use up your three passes, you will receive zero points for your absence.

Laboratory:

This class has a lab that is mandatory. There are lab reports that will be mostly provided for you. You will turn them in when they are due, at the end of each session. The reports will constitute **10%** of your semester grade.

Online Class Discussions:

There are online class discussions that are graded. These discussions cover several topics, and can be varied in type. Discussion accounts for **10%** of your grade. I will provide you with a rubric on how you will be graded for each discussion topic to assist you in getting the grade that you want. The objective of the discussions is twofold: 1) assist in creating the important sense of community in the class and 2) help you clarify your understanding of the discussion topics.

In class problem solving:

There will be in class problem solving sessions for many class sessions, instead of homework assignments. The problems will be provided for you as worksheets in class. You will be graded on what is observed while you are in class. The problem solving sessions will be worth **10%** of your grade.

Essential Notes and Videos:

I will post notes and a screen capture video that uses pictures and diagrams from the textbook. These videos will be about 15 minutes in length, and cover the minimum concepts and important computational skills needed for success in the class. You are expected to watch the videos and read the notes before the discussion topic is due. In addition to these “home brew” notes and videos, I will post links to other videos that I hope you find helpful in learning the material.

Grading Policy:

% Grade for the Class	Letter Grade For the Class		Category of classwork	% of Class Grade
90 – 100 %	A		Exams	70%
80- 89 %	B		In class problem solving sessions	10%
65 – 79 %	C		Lab Reports	10%
55 – 64 %	D		Online Class Discussion	10%
0 – 54 %	F			

Accessibility Accommodation

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.