

Physics 4A SYLLABUS

- Schedule # 56092 Fall 2015
- Lecture classes: MW 9:00 - 10:50 AM (FEM 7)
- Lab class: TH 2:00 - 4:50 PM (PHY 70)

Contact Information:

- Instructor Name: Max Bright
- Phone Number: 638 - 3641 ext. 3434
- Email: max.bright@reedleycollege.edu

Office hours:

- **Friday VIRTUAL HOUR 11 AM- noon** - this means that I will not be on campus that day, but will conduct my office hour remotely at this time.
- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday from 11:30 - 1 PM in HUM 61

Required Course Materials:

- Textbook: "Physics for Scientists and Engineers with Modern Physics", Giancoli, 4th edition, Pearson/Prentice Hall Publishers
- Mastering Physics is required for the homework.
- The course code is:

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 7th, Wednesday November 11th, Thursday and Friday the 26th and 27th of November

- LAST DAY TO DROP THIS CLASS: FRIDAY October 16th. AFTER THAT DATE, I MUST GIVE YOU A GRADE!!
- Final Exam: Monday December 14th at 9 AM in FEM 7 - the room where the class is held.

Homework:

Doing your homework assists you in two ways: 1) it helps you learn the material by practicing problem solving skills, and 2) it lifts your grade.

Your homework is 10% of your semester grade. This means that if you get 100% for the other parts of your grade, and don't do any homework, you will get a 'B', not an 'A' for the course.

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 65% of your semester grade, so they are very important to prepare for. Make up exams are discouraged. 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.**

Attendance:

You are required to be here, and be on time for every class. Being 10 minutes past the hour is considered absent. Class meetings will often begin with class discussions, it is rude to walk in late and interrupt when your classmates may be speaking. The first 10 minutes of lab are also when you will hear safety concerns and receive an introduction to the lab; missing this will make it difficult to complete the lab. Please be on time for both lecture and lab.

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.

Participation:

There are in-class activities that are graded on your participation. These activities are varied in type, and include computer simulations, problem solving sessions, and other activities that are designed to assist you in learning physics as well as assisting me in determining how well you are learning the material. Participation accounts for 15% of your grade, so it is important that you are in class **AND** participate. If you don't participate, you don't get the points just for being in class.

Project:

There will also be a final project. You will prepare a presentation, research paper, prepare a demonstration, or design/build something to explain some principle or major topic in physics. This project is worth 7% of your grade.

Grading Policy:

% Grade for the Class	Letter Grade For the Class		Category of classwork	% of Class Grade
90 - 100 %	A		Homework	10%
80- 89 %	B		Exams	65%
65 - 79 %	C		Lab Reports	10%
55 - 64 %	D		Participation	15%
0 - 54 %	F		Project	7%

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.

Student Conduct

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible manner in the classroom. Specific rules and regulations have been established in Board Policy 5410. Failure to adhere to the accepted standards will result in disciplinary action. Campus Policies on Student Conduct is described in [Reedley College Class Schedule](#).

Plagiarism and Cheating

Cheating and plagiarism is prohibited in the class. Incidents of cheating and plagiarism will result a failing grade on the particular examination or assignment in question.