**University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point**

**Department of Physics and Astronomy**

**General Physics (Physics 101)**

**SPRING 2017**

**Course Information:**

* **Instructor**: Bill Jenkins, 715-340-1970, [bjenkins@uwsp.edu](mailto:bjenkins@uwsp.edu)
* **Office**: Science building, B118
* **Office hours**: Monday & Tuesday, 1000-1100

Feel free to talk to me anytime about coming in for help

* **Prerequisites**: None. You should be able to do basic algebraic problem solving.
* **Textbook**: *The Physics of Everyday Phenomena*, Griffith and Brosing, 8th edition, McGraw-Hill
* **Purpose of Course**: This course is a broad introductory survey of classical physics. Topics include mechanics, energy and work, momentum, waves and oscillations, electricity and magnetism, and optics. Even though you may not pursue a career in physics, the lessons learned from studying physics will sharpen your reasoning skills and give you an in-depth understanding and appreciation of the physical world around you.
* **Course objectives**:

1. To understand the fundamental concepts of classical physics.
2. To apply these concepts in explaining everyday phenomena.
3. To make predictions about fundamental concepts and then test and verify them in a laboratory setting.

* **Classroom times**: All classes are held in the Science building.
  + Lectures: Twice a week, T TH 1100-1150, A109
  + Discussions: Once a week, A106

Section 1 M 0900-0950

Section 2 M 1100-1150

* + Laboratory: Twice a week, B104

Section 1 W F 0900-1050

Section 2 T Th 1300-1450

**General course policies:**

* D2L is the mechanism for grading, lecture notes, and problem solving examples.
* No food or drinks in the laboratory.
* Please remove ball caps/knit caps/etc. in lab.
* Use of cell phones, including texting, is not permitted in the classrooms or laboratory, except in case of emergency.
* A scientific calculator is required. Cell phone calculators are not permitted.
* Late work is not accepted unless there are unusual circumstances, such as death in the family, illness supported by a note from a health care professional, or sanctioned UWSP event. Please inform your instructor in advance.
* You should plan to meet for all labs and exams. No lab grades will be dropped. See your instructor in advance if a special situation arises that makes it difficult for you to be present for a particular lab or an exam.
* The final exam schedule is established by the university; no early final exam is allowed.
* Once you hand in your final exam, there is nothing more you can do to change your grade.

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**Homework and discussion:** A homework set of problems from the textbook will be assigned each week during lecture for use in the discussion class. To get maximum value out of the discussion class, you should attempt to work all problems beforehand; the problems will then be reviewed in class. Each week a turn-in problem will be assigned which will be graded. Extra credit problems are often made available as well.

**Exams:** There will be 4 exams during the semester including the final exam. The first 3 exams will be taken during a lab period. Although the exams are not comprehensive, they may necessarily require you to call on knowledge gained from an earlier exam period.

**Laboratories:** These are conducted twice a week. You will work in groups of 2 to 4, depending on the complexity of the lab and availability of equipment. At the end of each lab period your group should be able to turn in your lab report to the instructor. General format for the lab includes: cover page, procedure, data, analysis, and conclusion. Often, extra credit will be given for accuracy on labs, while deductions will be taken for poor data collection.

**Grading:** Your grade is based on total accumulated points. Your grade is simply your points divided by the total available points. The course is comprised of the following components; the percentage indicates the approximate value of the overall point total:

Laboratories 50%

Exams 35%

Homework/discussion 15%

There is no so-called "curve"; each student receives a grade based on percentage according to the following scale:

A 93% and up B- 80-82.99% D+ 67-69.99%

A- 90-92.99% C+ 77-79.99% D 60-66.99%

B+ 87-89.99% C 73-76.99% F Below 60%

B 83-86.99% C- 70-72.99%