

PHYSICS 203- 18 WEEKS LECTURE SYLLABUS (3:30 PM - W & F - FA19)

INSTRUCTOR: Carlos R. Mera
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WEB SITE: www.cerritos.edu/cmera
OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday: 2:30 PM to 3:30PM, Thursday: 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM, Friday: 4:45 PM to 5:45 PM, or by appointment.
TEXTBOOK: University Physics with Modern Physics. 14th edition Young and Freedman. ISBN: 9780321973610
MATERIALS: USB Drive, pencil, ruler, calculator and other materials as needed.

Overview: This is a problem-solving course. Concepts cannot be just memorized but must also be understood. During the next 18 weeks most of chapters 17 through 20 and 33 through 38 will be covered in this class. Selected sections from chapter 39 and 40 will be covered if time allows. Please see the attached schedule. In addition, attendance to the first two weeks of lecture and lab is mandatory. Students missing any lecture or lab meeting during the first two weeks of class will be dropped. No exceptions. The last day for me to add anyone to this class is **August 30**.

Class Hours: 3:30 PM to 4:45 PM Wednesday and Friday
Section: [22810](#)
Location: PST - 133

Prerequisite: The prerequisites for this class is **Physics 201 and Math 190 (Calculus II)** is a co-requisite.. Students will be dropped from this class if they don't meet the prerequisites. I will not sign any paper work to allow students to remain enrolled in the class if they are dropped by the computer system in the middle of the semester for lack of prerequisites, regardless of what their grade in the class is at that point in time.

Homework: Problems shall be assigned from the text book according to the schedule in the website (make sure you print the homework list for reference). They shall not be collected. However, your success in this course will be directly related to how well you understand and can apply the techniques and concepts that are illustrated in the homework problems and work out text book examples. To a great extend, these problems are practice for the exams.

Evaluation: The course scores will be determined according to the following weights and scores:

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------|
| Exams: | 3 (Lowest dropped) | 45 % |
| Final: | 1 | 25 % |
| Quizzes: | Lowest Dropped | 10 % |
| Lab: | Lowest dropped | 20 % |
| Total: | | 100 % |

Grade Scale: The course grade scale will be the following:

| | |
|----------|---------------|
| A | 100% to 88% |
| B | 87.9% to 77% |
| C | 76.9% to 67% |
| D | 66.9% to 50% |
| F | 49.9% to 0.0% |

As you can see the grade scale is already lower than a standard scale; therefore, I will not be curving the grade any more than this.

Exams: Three (3) equally weighted exams will be offered during this class. The material in each test and tests' dates are listed in the lecture and lab schedules. **The dates are tentative and no accommodations will be made if the exams dates need to be moved from some reason.** You will be allowed to use **one 8.5 by 11 piece of paper** (both sides) during the test. **Only formulas may be included in the paper (no examples or solved problems)** You must turn in the paper with your exam. Anyone caught with extra materials during the test will be dismissed and given a score of zero in that exam. The exams may be problems only, multiple choice or a combination of both. Exam problems may be like the homework problems and/or problems that are presented in the lecture. There may be one problem in the test that you have not seen before, in order to test your true understanding of the material. You must show all your work clearly in your exam in order to receive full credit. You must show the derivation for any equation that you use that is not a fundamental equation. You will not receive credit if you use just the final equations that were derived in the solution manual to solve the problem. Substitute values for the symbols in your equations to receive full credit. I will not grade any work that I cannot read. The exams dates are clearly stated in the schedule; therefore, make sure that you plan accordingly. Do not schedule any other activities during an exam day. **The lowest exam score will be dropped and, therefore; no make up exams will be giving**

under any circumstances. Finally, once the first student leaves the room no further students will be admitted. Be on time! The exams' duration will be 2 hours. Students will not be allowed to leave the room during the exam. Anyone leaving the exam's room must turn in the test paper. **All backpacks must be placed at the front of the room during the exam. Cell phones must be placed on your table and must be off.**

Final Exam: The final exam may be a comprehensive, the scope of the exam will be announced a few weeks ahead of the exam. The final exam is worth 25% of your grade. The same rules that applied to regular exams apply to the final exam. The exam will take place on **Wednesday December 18 from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM** The final exam score will not be dropped. Students will not be allowed to take the exam with another class section and no early or make up exams will be given. The exam date will only change due to any changes made by the college administration. Anyone missing the final exam will receive a grade of zero in the exam. You will be allowed to use one 8.5 by 11 piece of paper during the test. You must turn in the paper with your exam. The final may be problem solving, multiple choice or a combination of both. **Finally, once the first student leaves the room no further students will be admitted. Be on time!** The exam's duration will be 2 hours. Students will not be allowed to leave the room during the exam. Anyone leaving the exam's room must turn in the test paper. **All backpacks must be placed at the front of the room during the exam. Cell phones must be placed on your table and must be off.**

Quizzes: Quizzes will be worth 10% of your grade. Quizzes will be based on lecture material covered the previous week. Quizzes could be in class or on line. The in class quizzes will be unannounced and will take place in the first 10 minutes of the class period. Students will not be given extra time if they are late to class. The online quizzes will be given through Canvas. It is your responsibility to check Canvas for the quizzes' due dates. The lowest quiz score will be dropped; no make up quizzes will be giving under any circumstances.

Laboratory Work: A separate lab syllabus and other related handouts shall be given and discussed later.

Attendance: *Only students enrolled in this class may be in attendance. Leave children, family, friends and pets at home.* You need to be present for every class meeting. If you missed a session make sure you get notes from one of your classmates. Finally, missing too many meetings could result in you being dropped from the class. You may be dropped if you miss **more than two class meetings** during the semester.

Latecomers And Early Leavers: Coming late and leaving early is discourteous and disruptive to the concentration of the instructor and those who come on time and stay to the end. I will take roll at **3:30 PM** sharp. Anyone coming after the roll has been called or leaving more than just a few minutes early will be counted as late. You have

to let me know that you were late at the end of the class if you come in after the roll has been called; otherwise, you will be marked absent. **Four late marks equal one absent.**

Canvas: I will post, assignments, solutions, other information and your scores on [Canvas](#). Grades will not be rounded. Please check your grades regularly for accuracy.

Student Code of Conduct: Behavior which is disruptive is not appropriate to the classroom. I will follow the Student Code of Conduct published by Cerritos College and listed in the schedule of courses.

Cell Phones & Pagers: All cell phones and pagers must be either turned off or in vibration mode. Anyone engaged in a cell phone conversation, watching videos, texting or working on homework from another class during class time will be asked to leave the room and marked absent for that day. A second infraction of the same type will result in disciplinary action. I do not allow for phones to be used to take notes. **Phones must be put away during class.**

Headphones: Headsets and ear buds are not allowed during lecture, labs and exams.

Classroom rules: Please become familiar with the general rules for the Physics labs and classrooms. The most important one is that **No food or drinks are allowed inside the classrooms.**

Students With Disabilities: Cerritos Community College is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer and educational institution committed to excellence through diversity. Reasonable accommodations including materials in an alternative format will be made for individuals with disabilities. For more information, please contact CC Disabled Student Programs and Services, at 562-860-2451 ext. 2335. **Students who are taking the exams at the DSPS office, must notify me through email a week in advance the day and time of their exam. The exam must be scheduled before or on the day your class is taking the exam, not after. Do not schedule exams for Mondays or Tuesdays.**

Academic Honesty: The school policies and regulations will be applied in all cases. Anyone caught cheating will receive a zero for the assignment for the first offense. A second offense will result in disciplinary action. No amount of pleading or apologizing will change this action, even if it is the first offense. Helping a cheater is also cheating and will receive the same penalty. Do not consider anything that may resemble cheating, such as loading your calculator with useful information before a test, as this will also cause you to receive a failing grade for the test. **All backpacks must be placed at the front of the room during the exam. Cell phones must be placed on your table and must be off.**

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs): A student completing a Physics 203 class will be able to:

1. Students understand units and dimensions not presented in Physics 201 or 202.
2. Students will solve advanced problems in Thermodynamics.
3. Students will solve advanced problems in Optics.
4. Students will solve advanced problems in Modern Physics.
5. Students will solve problems symbolically as well as algebraically.

Incomplete (I) Grades: Incomplete grades are only for students who have completed most of the work and have a legitimate, documented reason for not completing all of the work. They will only be giving to students who have taken three of the exams and who have discussed with me the work done and the reason for the incomplete grade.

Withdrawal: Withdrawal from the course is the responsibility of the students. Check the class schedule for the official withdrawal deadline . The last day to drop (with a grade of “W”) is **November 22nd**.

Final Comments: Studying is essential for getting a good grade in this course. There is a lot of material and is a difficult subject for most people. Do not wait until the last minute to study. Join a study group with a person or people with whom you feel comfortable and who will help you study. The points in this class must be earned during the semester. There will be no last minute discussion at the end of the semester about extra points. Also, please, make sure you keep track of exams dates and assignments due dates. Do not schedule any other type of activity during those dates, since no make up exams or assignments will be provided. **The dates are tentative and no accommodations will be made if the exams dates need to be moved from some reason.** Finally, do not plan to leave on vacation before the end of the semester. You will not be allowed to perform any labs or exams before the date established in the class schedule. This includes final exams. **No final exams will be given before the final exam date in the class schedule.**