

Physics 6A, Spring 2014

Lectures: MW 5:00-6:45pm, Earth & Marine B206

Instructor: Amy Furniss, 318 Natural Sciences II, amy.furniss@gmail.com

Office Hours: MW 11:00am-12:00pm, 2:00-3:00pm and 7:00-8:00pm

Required materials for 6A and 6L:

- (1) Essential University Physics by Wolfson
- (2) iClicker RG electronic student response unit (available at Bay Tree)
- (3) A non-graphical calculator for use during midterm and final
- (4) Physics 6L Lab Manual (available at Bay Tree)
- (5) Special blank laboratory notebook for 6L (available at Bay Tree)

Course grading:

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|-------------------------|-----|
| (1) Class participation | 5% |
| (2) Homework | 15% |
| (3) Midterm | 40% |
| (4) Final | 40% |

Homework:

Written homework is due on Mondays. **Late homework is not accepted.** Assignments will be posted on eCommons on Mondays preceding the due date. Each assignment will include 11 required problems, as well as a number of suggested (not required, but highly encouraged) problems. Of the 11 required problems, one will be chosen *at random* and graded thoroughly for completeness. The other 10 required problems will be given credit based on a complete problem setup.

Course Exam and Review Timeline:

Date	Details	Notes
Wednesday, April 30th	Midterm Review	In class
Monday, May 5th	Midterm (Chapters 2-8)	Locations TBA
Wednesday, June 4th	Final Exam Review	In class
Tuesday, June 10th	Final (Chapters 9-13)	7:30-10:30pm - locations TBA

Midterm and final exams:

The midterm and final exams will be comprised of 40% homework problems, 40% of problems covered in detail in class and 20% of “new” problems which have not yet been directly covered. The numbers used in each midterm and final exam problem previously covered in homework or class will be modified. A list of useful equations and constants will be provided for using during the exam.

Lab course (6L):

The lab course is graded and passed separately from 6A, although 6A and 6L are designed to work together. Read through the experiment before lab. If you miss one lab, you cannot get a grade higher than a B for 6L. If you miss two labs, you will fail 6L and will have to take it again. If you know in advance that you will miss a lab, arrange to make it up in a another section with your lab instructor. 6L labs occur weekly, starting the week of April 14th.

Succeeding in 6A:

Expect to work more than 10 hours per week outside the classroom/lab each week. Read, do your homework and work with others on understanding the concepts presented in the class. Please take advantage of the TA's discussion office hours. Look for help early if you are getting worried, your grade is determined entirely on the numerical scores, so there is nothing we can do to change it after the fact.

Although I will post any slides used during a lecture after the class, I warn you that these slides will lack a significant portion of lecture content. I will rarely use slides to introduce material, work through example problems or summarize concepts. **Attend class. Take notes. Ask questions.**

Modified Supplemental Instructions:

In addition to discussion, we also have support from the MSI program on campus. The MSI tutor, Katherine Rodriguez, will be scheduling her sessions on the first day of class. I encourage you to take advantage of MSI discussion sessions, particularly if you find you are having trouble in the course.

Academic Dishonesty Policy:

I am helpful and easygoing when approached for help, but I am ruthless in cases of academic dishonesty. Every quarter, someone gets caught cheating and flunks the course.

The rules are very clear: Use in any exam of any aid not specifically allowed. This includes notes, copying, or help from another person during exams. Any cheating will result either in an F in the entire course or a D grade with a statement in your evaluation that the grade was due to cheating, at my discretion. The latter is worse, you do not want a statement of cheating to be read by every school and employer for the rest of your career.

You are encouraged to work in groups while discussing how to do the homework, however, we require that you work alone when working the problems for your final answers. Violation of these rule, or any other misuse of the assignments, will be considered academic dishonesty and will result in penalties up to failing the course. These penalties are in addition to any administrative penalties from your college, such as expulsion, and are subject to the usual campus procedure.