Physics 202A **General Physics** **Spring 2014**

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Web: http://phys.csuchico.edu/kagan/202A *Office Hours*: MWF 1-1:50pm and MW 3-3:50pm.

Materials: *Recommended Text*: Hugh D. Young, Sears & Zemansky's College Physics, 9th Edition.
Lab: Physics 202A Laboratory Manual (available at the first lab meeting for about $10.00).

Prerequisites: High school physics, high school trigonometry, and second-year high school algebra or equivalent (MATH 051 and MATH 118 at CSU, Chico). Algebra, trigonometry, and vector mathematics will be used regularly.

Summary of the Course: This course will focus on Chapters 1-15. The course will require reading of a text (hard copy or on-line), viewing of on-line pre-lectures, participation in class activities, written homework, and completion of weekly laboratory activities. There will also be two mid-term exams and a final. The course schedule and assignments are at the web site above.

Course Elements	Pct	Description
Pre-Lecture Pre-Read and/or Pre-Watch	10%	Pre-lectures, Pre-Reads, and Pre-Watch assignments are linked in the online course schedule. These are designed to prepare you to get the most out of class time. You must watch the Pre-Lecture and you may choose one of the Pre-Reads or the Pre-Watch. To reward you for preparing I need you to send me an email with "PCQ#xx" and your name in the subject line by 10am on the day of class. Include at least one question or comment you have about the pre-lecture, pre-read, or pre-watch. Hopefully, we'll get it answered during class.
Class Participation	10%	Class will consist of activities, group work, discussions, and worked examples. Lecture notes are posted on the web site. They must be printed and brought to class. I'll collect some of this work.
Homework	10%	There will be four or five problems from the book assigned at each class. They are due at the next class. Each of your solutions must be on a separate sheet of paper. One problem from each assignment may be collected and graded. Five points will be awarded for a correct solution that is clearly and properly explained. Solutions without written explanations will not earn all five points. My solutions will be posted on the web site after class.
Laboratory	10%	Your lab instructor will explain the grading of lab write-ups.
Midterm Exams	15%	The midterms will consist of five problems. Most will be similar to the assigned homework problems. The rest will be short answer questions similar to the class activities.
Final Exam	30%	The final exam will cover chapters 1-15. It will consist of ten problems or questions.

Class Policies:
1. Late homework or pre-class questions will not be accepted.
2. Missed exams and labs cannot be made up.
3. You will not pass this class if you miss more than one lab.
4. The only exceptions to the rules above must be made by PRIOR arrangement.

Student Responsibilities: Your primary responsibility is to develop a solid understanding of physics. You must allow yourself the time to think about these ideas thoroughly. The superficial memorization of the solutions to the problems will not help you achieve the grade you want nor the understanding you will need to assure your success in the future. The following behaviors typically lead to success in this course:

1. Study on a regular basis not just by cramming before deadlines or exams.
2. Prepare for class by regularly watching the Pre-lecture and doing at least one Pre-read or Pre-watch.
3. Be involved in class by asking questions and fully participating in all activities.
4. Do all homework problems thoroughly and completely. Compare your solutions against the posted solutions as soon as possible.
5. Seek assistance from the instructor or other sources (see below) when needed.

Instructor's Responsibilities: My responsibility is to set high standards for your achievement and provide an environment where you can meet these standards. I will address my responsibilities by:

1. Providing useful and effective course materials and assignments.
2. Designing in-class activities to help you deepen your understanding.
3. Returning graded assignments to you in a prompt manner.
4. Providing detailed homework and exam solutions on the web site.
5. Always being available during office hours and be available many other times by appointment.

Assistance: If you find that you need help from time to time try:

1. **Talking to me!** (Office hours, come early to class, make an appointment, send an e-mail, etc.)
2. PhSc 110 - Physics Department Student Learning Center (hours to be announced).
3. Physics 202W - Tutorial (1 unit CR/NC).
4. Work in groups with other students.
5. Use more than one of the learning resources posted on the class web site.