

Course Policy Statement

SP212 Spring 2012 Sections 3321 & 5521

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textbook: Halliday/Resnick/Walker, *Fundamentals of Physics*, 9th ed, Vol. 2

section webpage: <http://usna.edu/Users/physics/mungan/Courses/SP212.html>

Quizzes & Exams

There will be 3 in-class tests near the 6, 12, and 16 week marks as listed on the Syllabus. We will follow the policy of the course coordinator for the final exam for these tests: The standard equation sheet will be attached to each of them. For study purposes it can be accessed online but do NOT bring a copy to the tests (because I will attach the current version to the tests). Bring only a pencil, a standard calculator, and extra calculator batteries. The tests will be held during double-period lab time slots and will consist of multiple-choice questions drawn from old SP212 final exams, except that you will be asked to justify your answers for full credit. These in-class tests will not be curved, but they will include some bonus problems for extra points.

The final exam is common to all sections and is comprehensive and curved across the entire course. It is multiple choice and includes 50 questions: 40 drawn from the 40 textbook sections listed in the Syllabus and 10 drawn from the 10 labs.

There will be 10 short quizzes at the beginning of the classes listed on the Syllabus. They will mostly consist of questions based on homework problems or based on concepts discussed in class (especially the ClassTalk questions).

Homework

Homework problems will be assigned in WileyPlus as we complete each chapter (for a total of 16 sets with on average one set per week) and will be due an hour after midnight on the dates listed in the Syllabus. Instructions for accessing WileyPlus:

- Go to www.wileyplus.com.
- Click on the green button "Get started."
- In the find your class box type "US Naval Academy" and then click "Find."
- Click on the + under "Calc Physics" and then choose the green arrow for your Section Name (3321 or 5521) under Instructor "Carl Mungan."

Although each of you will have your own numbers, you are encouraged to work together on the general method of solution, provided each person has worked out and understands their own submissions. (If you do not understand them, you will do poorly on the quizzes!) Please come see me for EI if you get badly stuck on the homework. Also consider attending MGSP for extra help. Keep a binder of how you solve the problems and make printouts of your submissions. That will be useful for later studying and for asking coherent questions in EI.

The WileyPlus problems are EXACTLY those suggested by the Course Coordinator, so you should be optimally prepared for the Final Exam. Points per problem are equal to the number of dots assigned to that problem in the textbook. You have unlimited attempts per problem to get them right. Homework submitted after the due time only gets half the points.

All sets will be converted to percent scores and counted equally, except that I will drop your lowest homework grade. All sets are already assigned, so you can try them anytime you like.

Labs

There are 10 lab experiments. We will skip the prelab exercises. You are to work in groups of 2 of your own choosing (with at most one group of 3) which need not be the same every week. Each group need only turn in one lab response form (with attached graphs); formal reports are

not required. Please print out and bring a copy of the lab response form with you, as otherwise the lab printers get bogged down with print jobs at the beginning of lab time. Turn in the forms at the end of the lab period if you have finished them; if not, they are due no later than the following Monday (or Tuesday in the event of a holiday) at 1700. I grade them on a simple scale of A down to D based on how thoughtfully and fully you answer all questions (other than ones I say you can skip); there is no F—but you get 0 if you give me no report or one that is mostly blank. Absent lab mates are NOT to be named on reports as though they were present.

ClassTalk

Many of my lectures will be supplemented by the ClassTalk system. This uses infrared remotes to poll everyone in the class for their answers to a multiple-choice question projected by a computer. You will choose a numbered remote the first day of class; please note your number and always take the same remote each period so the system knows who you are. The system will record your participation and it will count toward the discretionary part of your grade discussed below; to motivate you to give the questions your best shot, you will gain slightly more points if you answer a question correctly. ClassTalk works best if you are prepared: Please look over the assigned textbook sections prior to arrival in class. You will follow the lectures much better if you do so. Please do NOT use absent classmates' clickers to enter responses for them: Participation credit requires that they be physically present to earn it.

Demo Lecture Days

There are three Fridays listed on the Syllabus in which we will gather with the other sections in that time slot in the Auditorium (Chauvenet 100) for a demonstration lecture on various topics relevant to material in that third of the course. Make sure that you check in with the Section Leader on these days for attendance recording. There could be a question on the next quiz about material presented on these days, so pay attention.

Extra Instruction

I strongly encourage you to make an appointment to guarantee I will be in, but you should feel free to walk into my office anytime I am there—my schedule is on my personal home page. I will try to accommodate special requests for EI on weekends or evenings. I normally will not have much time to review homework and test solutions during regular lectures, so EI is your best bet. Please come to EI prepared with specific questions. If you want help on homework, be sure you have already made an honest effort yourself.

Grading Scheme

1.5 points for each in-class quizz => max of 15 points

10 points for each in-class test => max of 30 points

30 points for the final exam => max of 30 points

1 point for each homework set (minus one dropped set) => max of 15 points

1 point for each lab report => max of 10 points

Missed quizzes or tests (with valid excuses) must be made up as near to the actual date as possible. In addition, you can get a bonus added to your grade of up to 6% at 16 weeks (2% at 6 weeks and 4% at 12 weeks) based on coming in for EI and participating in ClassTalk.

Your grade at any time equals total points earned divided by maximum points available. Points earned on any item equals your percent score on that item times the number of points that item is worth.