

## Tentative Syllabus for Physics 250: Spring 2012

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**To access the Physics Gateway: <http://hutton.lyon.edu>**

**During class periods and during tests:  
cell phones are to be switched off.**

### Office Hours

I will schedule several office hour blocks. I will be very close to my office or research lab during these times. Otherwise, I will usually be close to my office or research lab. If you want to find me outside of office hours, make an appointment so that you will be sure to find me. My schedule is located on the physics home page which you may review to determine office hours.

### Grading

**As a general guide to grades, grades will be assigned as follows:**

<b>100-90]</b>	<b>(90-80]</b>	<b>(80-70]</b>	<b>(70-60]</b>	<b>&lt;(60</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>F</b>

In this course, you will have several grading opportunities, tests, homework and in-class problems. The various weight of each of these activities in your final point grade is shown below. **Late assignments will normally not be accepted. Additionally, since we will be doing in-class problems, poor attendance will negatively affect your grade: in particular, you will not receive credit for class participation for unexcused absences. There are no make-ups for in-class worksheets.**

**Tests (4 tests and 1 [comprehensive] final exam)=85%**

**Each test is worth 17% of your grade.**

**Homework / in-class problems/ class participation=15%**

**Note: Physics Lab (Phy251) is a separate course and as such the grade in Phy251 has no impact upon the grade in Phy250.**

Your work on tests will be graded for correctness and clarity. **Failure to supply details leading to a result will result in very little credit for a problem.** If you want full credit for a problem, **you must** supply the logical steps that led to the result and the result **must include proper units.** Diagrams should be included where appropriate to define quantities used in your result. Homework and worksheets will be graded for completion.

### Course Description

In this course you will be exposed to fundamentals of physics. Among the topics that we will cover are mechanics, waves and thermodynamics. Refer to Assessable Learning Outcomes for a more complete presentation of topics.

### **Course Objectives**

As a consequence of this course, you should obtain an enhanced understanding of the fundamentals of physics. In addition, you should come away from this course with an ability to solve fundamental problems involving physical principles.

### **Course Prerequisites**

You are expected to be proficient with algebra and trigonometry. It is strongly recommended that your life will be made easier if you review trigonometry. Additionally you must satisfy the calculus prerequisites for physics 250.

### **Text**

The textbook in this course is:

#### **Physics 250:**

Principles of Physics, Serway and Jewett, Fourth edition

ISBN: 0-534-49143-X

**You may use earlier editions of this text (which can be obtained at much lower prices online {\$0.25 for example is a low price}) but you will need to be sure to read the correct portions of the text.**

The schedule is designed around this particular text edition. You may use earlier or later editions but you will need to be sure to read the correct portions of the text. The text must be considered to be a very important resource so students are expected to be reading along in the text as the course progresses.

You have many resources on the campus: the library, your colleagues and your professor. Your prime learning resource, however, must be considered to be the classroom: **punctual and complete** class attendance is expected. **Absences will negatively impact your final grade. Tardiness is considered to be an unexcused absence and will negatively impact your final grade.**

### **Attendance**

#### **The Lyon College Catalogue for 2011-2012 states:**

Students are expected to attend all class periods for the courses in which they are enrolled. They are responsible for conferring with individual professors regarding any missed assignments. Faculty members are to notify the Registrar when a student misses the equivalent of one, two, three, and four weeks of class periods in a single course. Under this policy, there is no distinction between "excused" and "unexcused" absences. A reminder of the college's attendance policy will be issued to the student at one week, a second reminder at two weeks, a warning at three weeks, and notification of administrative withdrawal and the assigning of an "F" grade at four weeks. Students who are administratively withdrawn from more than one course will be placed on probation or suspended (see Academic Probation and Academic Suspension).

### **Academic Honesty**

It is expected and encouraged that students in this class will work together on homework problems. If you use reference work, be sure to include proper references. On tests, students are required to keep notes and books closed except as instructed. **Your professor will supply all the paper needed for the tests.** Any questions during tests should be directed to the professor only. **CELL PHONES AND OTHER WIRELESS OR NETWORKED DEVICES (INCLUDING COMPUTERS) MAY NOT BE USED DURING TESTS.** If you do use such devices during a test, it will automatically be considered to be a violation of the Lyon College Honor Code.

**All graded work in this class is to be pledged in accordance with the Lyon College Honor Code.**

"Students seeking reasonable accommodations based on documented learning disabilities must contact the Office of Academic Services at 307-7332."