

General Physics Syllabus – Fall 2011

The mission of Abilene Christian University is to educate students
for Christian service and leadership throughout the world.

Contact Information:

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Course Information:

PHYS 110 – General Physics I, MWF 1-2, Foster Science Building 350
Required textbook – *Physics* 8th Edition, Cutnell and Johnson
Catalog description – Principles of mechanics, heat, and sound. An algebra-based physics course, designed primarily for liberal arts and pre-medical and pre-dental students.
Concurrent enrollment in PHYS 111 is highly suggested. Prerequisite: MATH 109, 124, or 185.

Important course materials and homework submission are available through WileyPlus at
<http://edugen.wileyplus.com/edugen/class/cls233002/>
Grades and lecture notes will be posted on Blackboard.

Objectives and Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete General Physics will:

- understand the fundamental principles of Newtonian mechanics and thermodynamics
- have a physics background which prepares them for medical and health professions
- develop skills in critical thinking and quantitative reasoning
- recognize applications of physics in modern science and technology

Homework:

Several homework problems will be assigned from the textbook for each chapter. Homework will be submitted online using the WileyPLUS system by following the link above. You are strongly encouraged to spend 15-30 minutes working on each problem *by yourself*, then discussing the solutions with a study group. While group work is encouraged, each student submit their own work on WileyPLUS for credit. Solutions will be available the day the assignment is due, therefore *no late homework will be accepted*. Each student's lowest homework grade will be dropped at the end of the semester.

Quizzes:

In class quizzes will be given approximately every week to provide you an assessment of your understanding. No books or notes will be allowed, so *formulae must be memorized for* quizzes. Students absent from class *will receive a zero*, except in the case of University-excused absences. Each student's lowest quiz grade will be dropped at the end of the semester.

Exams:

There will be five exams given over the course of the semester. Each exam will cover about three chapters of material. The last exam will be given on the scheduled Final Exam date for the class. No notes or books will be allowed during exams, but a formula sheet will be provided. Exam grades will be curved. Students absent from an exam without prior approval will receive a zero. Each student's lowest exam score will receive half as much weight as the other exams when calculating the final average.

Attendance:

Attendance is a crucial factor to your success in this class. Except in the case of University-excused absences:

- students who are absent for a quiz will receive a zero
- students who are absent for an exam will receive a zero

Grading Policy:

Homework	30 %
Quizzes	10 %
Exams	60 %

Lowest homework and quiz grades will be dropped before calculating the final average. The lowest exam grade will receive half as much weight as the other exams.

The grade scale will be: 90-100% A, 80-89% B, 70-79% C, 60-69% D, <60% F

Conduct in Class

Please be respectful of your fellow students and professors in class. Remember that you, or someone on your behalf, are paying a great deal of money for the privilege of your education. Class time is extremely valuable, so disruptive behavior is inappropriate in class. However, questions addressed to the entire class are encouraged during the class period.

We will do several mobile-learning activities during class, so you are expected to bring an iThing to class. Otherwise, laptops, iPhones, iPods, cell phones, etc. are not to be in hand, on the desk or in use except for these activities.

Academic Integrity:

Violations of academic integrity and other forms of cheating, as defined in ACU's Academic Integrity Policy, involve the intention to deceive or mislead or misrepresent, and therefore are a form of lying and represent actions contrary to the behavioral norms that flow from the nature of God. Violations will be addressed as described in the Policy. While the university enforces the Policy, the most powerful motive for integrity and truthfulness comes from one's desire to imitate God's nature in our lives. Every member of the faculty, staff, and student body is responsible for protecting the integrity of learning, scholarship, and research. **Cheating of any sort will not be tolerated.**

If "extra credit" or special exemptions from the grading policy are given to only to a single student or a small group of students, then they receive an unfair advantage over the rest of the class. Requests for extra credit, particularly at the end of the semester, can be considered in some circumstances as a form of cheating. Fairness demands that all students in a class are given the same opportunities. Therefore, **no special extra credit will be given.**