

## Descriptive Physics

Physics 115

Spring 2009

**Instructor:** Prof. [Brett D. DePaola](#), (Office: CW333; lab phone: 532-6777)

**Office Hours:** Nearly *anytime*, but by appointment (email or phone)

**Class Hours:** 11:30am – 12:20pm *and* 12:30pm – 1:20pm MWF

**Class & Test Locations:** Class: CW102; Tests: CW101

**Text:** *Physics Principles with Applications, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition*, by Douglas C. Giancoli

**Tests:** As indicated in the schedule below, there will be **FIVE** 75-minute tests each worth **125 points**. The lowest of these will be dropped. Please note that these exams will be held on selected Tuesday evenings, starting at 5:30 pm, and ending at 6:45 pm. The final is comprehensive and worth **200 points**. *It cannot be dropped or substituted*. All the exams are a mixture of multiple-choice, short answer, and “word problems”. The questions in this last category will tend to closely resemble assigned homework problems. *There will be no make-up tests*.

**Homework:** The homework assignments are given below. They will constitute your recitation grade. We will be using “[WebAssign](#)”. Students must purchase an access card at the University Copy Center in the basement of Eisenhower Hall. All homework must be completed by 7:30am on the date indicated in [WebAssign](#). Recitation instructors will go over the assignments and answer any questions you have about them. **You will be responsible for these assignments whether or not the material is covered in class**. All homework problems will be graded and will count toward your recitation grade. Remember, you may see these problems again on an exam! As shown in the chart below, attendance will be taken in the recitations and will count as a part of your grade. If you cannot attend your assigned recitation and wish to attend a different one, *it is up to you to inform your recitation instructor so that you will receive credit for attendance*. The first recitation will be held on **January 26**. The first homework will be due at 7:30am on that day.

**Extra Credit:** There will be **limited** opportunity for extra credit. Details will be given during the semester.

**Laboratory:** The laboratory is mandatory; a lab grade of at least 60% is required to pass this course. The lab and lecture are only roughly synchronized, so do not be shy about asking questions! Please contact [Dr. Dave Van Domelen](#) (CW402, 532-1605) for details concerning the labs. **The first lab meets on the week of January 26, 2008**.

**Grades:** Possible Points:

Distribution of Maximum Possible Points	
Tests (best 4)	4 @ 125pnts = <b>500</b>
Final Exam	<b>200</b>
Recitation + Homework	<b>100</b>
Laboratory	<b>200</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1000</b>

Final grades will be determined from the total points as follows:

900 or above	<b>A</b>
800 – 899	<b>B</b>
700 – 799	<b>C</b>
600 – 699	<b>D</b>
Less than 600	<b>F</b>

**Final Exam:** The course final will be comprehensive. It will take place on Thursday, **May 14, 2008, from 6:20pm to 8:10pm** in Cardwell Hall, room 101 (the same room we use for our usual Descriptive Physics tests all semester long).

**Individual Help:** Any student who wishes individual help is encouraged to see me or his/her recitation instructor during office hours, or other times by appointments.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and may be punished by failure on the exam, paper or project; failure in the course; and/or expulsion from the university. For more information refer to the “Academic Dishonesty” policy in the “K-State Undergraduate Catalog” and the “Undergraduate Honor System Policy” on the Provost’s web page at <http://www.ksu.edu/honor/>.

**Note:** If you have any condition such as a physical or learning disability, which will make it difficult for you to carry out the work as I have outlined it or which will require academic accommodations, please notify me and contact the Disabled Students Office (Holton 202) in the first two weeks of the course.

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Week of		Chap.	Topics
Jan	12	1	Math
	19	2	Kinematics (1D)
	26	3,4	Kinematics, Dynamics
Feb	2	4	Dynamics
	9	6	Energy
	16	7,8	Momentum, Rotation
	23	8,9	Rotation, Statics
Mar	2	11	Waves
	9	12,13	Sound, Temperature
	16	None!	Spring Break! ☺
	23	13,14	Temperature, Heat
	30	16,17	Electric charge/potential
Apr	6	17,18	Elec. Pot., Currents
	13	19	DC Circuits
	20	23	Geometric Optics
	27	24	Light Waves
May	4	25	Opt. Instruments
	14		Final: 6:20pm – 8:10pm ☹

Note: We will not have class on the following dates:

Jan. 19: Martin Luther King Birthday ☺

Mar. 2: Architecture Field Trip ☺

Mar. 16-20 Spring Break ☺

April 17: Open House Events ☺

Tests are on *Tuesday* evenings, from 5:30 pm until 6:45 pm, *on the weeks indicated above in red*. The actual test dates are shown below:

**Feb. 10:** Chapters 1-4, Appendices A, B

**Mar. 3:** Chapters 6-9

**Mar. 31:** Chapters 11-14

**Apr. 14:** Chapters 16-18

**Apr. 28:** Chapters 19, 23

**May 14:** **FINAL!!** ☹ Comprehensive ☹. **Thursday**, 6:20pm – 8:10pm