PHYS 522 MECHANICS

Spring 2016 Tuesdays & Thursdays 11:30–12:45 Cardwell 146 Wednesdays 2:30–3:20 Cardwell 222

Instructor: Bharat Ratra, Cardwell 32A, 532-6265, ratra@phys.ksu.edu, www.phys.ksu.edu/people/tt-faculty/ratra.html

Office and Recitation Hours: By appointment.

Text: J. R. Taylor, Classical Mechanics (University Science Books 2005). Time (and student preparation) permitting, we will cover approximately the first ten chapters.

Grades will be based on: (1) short in-class exams during the usual lecture period — carry a calculator with you when you come to class; (2) homework problem sets (this is a 4 credit class and there will be proportionately more homework than in a 3 credit class: keep up to speed on your homework); and, possibly (3) a short write up and/or an in-class presentation on an assigned topic.

Homework Policy: I regard homework as an educational experience, not an evaluation mechanism. Part of the grade is based on the homework problem sets to encourage you to do them. I encourage you to work on the problems in groups, if you are so inclined. However, for pedagogical reasons it is essential that each student write up solutions independently.

Learning Outcomes: Have a solid foundation in the basics of theoretical physics. Have hands-on experience with common mathematical, computational and experimental tools. Understanding of one advanced topic in theoretical or experimental physics.

Official Kansas State University Statement Regarding Academic Honesty: Kansas State University has an Honor System based on personal integrity, which is presumed to be sufficient assurance that, in academic matters, one’s work is performed honestly and without unauthorized assistance. Undergraduate and graduate students, by registration, acknowledge the jurisdiction of the Honor System. The policies and procedures of the Honor System apply to all full and part-time students enrolled in undergraduate and graduate courses on-campus, off-campus, and via distance learning. The honor system website can be reached via the following URL: www.ksu.edu/honor. A component vital to the Honor System is the inclusion of the Honor Pledge which applies to all assignments, examinations, or other course work undertaken by students. The Honor Pledge is implied, whether or not it is stated: ”On my honor, as a student, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this academic work.” A grade of XF can result from a breach of academic honesty. The F indicates failure in the course; the X indicates the reason is an Honor Pledge violation.
Official Kansas State University Statement Regarding Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities who need classroom accommodations, access to technology, or information about emergency building/campus evacuation processes should contact the Student Access Center and/or their instructor. Services are available to students with a wide range of disabilities including, but not limited to, physical disabilities, medical conditions, learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder, depression, and anxiety. If you are a student enrolled in campus/online courses through the Manhattan or Olathe campuses, contact the Student Access Center at accesscenter@k-state.edu, 785-532-6441; for Salina campus, contact the Academic and Career Advising Center at acac@k-state.edu, 785-826-2649.

Official Kansas State University Statement Defining Expectations for Classroom Conduct: All student activities in the University, including this course, are governed by the Student Judicial Conduct Code as outlined in the Student Governing Association By Laws, Article V, Section 3, number 2. Students who engage in behavior that disrupts the learning environment may be asked to leave the class.

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