



Course Syllabus: General Physics
McCoy College of Science, Math and Engineering
PHYS 1144 Section 12009 - 101
Fall 2024

Contact Information

Instructor: Muatez Mohammed

Office: 219 D

Office Hours: Zoom, By appointment: Online During the week Mon, Wed, Fri (2-4) pm. Email for appointment.

Class and Time: 205 McCoy Engineering Hall at (1:00- 1:50) pm on MWF

Office phone: (940) 397-4182

E-mail: muatez.mohammed@msutexas.edu

Course Description

A basic introduction to physics 1144 is the first of a two-semester sequence of General Physics. Introduces the student to the concepts and principles of mechanics (kinematics, force, work, energy, momentum, rotational motion, elasticity, fluids, heat, and thermodynamics). In this semester we will discuss how all of these concepts and principles in Physics apply to day-to-day life. The lab component will help bring more meaning to the lecture. Observing and using the techniques and methods to do experiments and analyze data.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

College Physics: A Strategic Approach, 4th edition, Knight, Jones, & Field. (Pearson, required: **You need to purchase the access code.**)

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

If you need physics tutoring, please contact the library. They have a list of physics tutors. When assistance is needed for this course, please do not hesitate to reach out and contact the library for tutoring in physics courses.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

Grading

Assignments	Points
Pre-lecture homework	10
Post-lecture homework	10
Labs	20
Exams	60
Total Points	100

Total points for final grade.

Grade	Points
A	89 to 100
B	79 to 88
C	69 to 78
D	59 to 68
F	Less than 59

Homework

Pre and Post-Chapter Homework:

This is done before and after each chapter and has problem solving. Through Mastering, access code needed.

Lecture/Study Homework:

This will have problem solving and be available after each lecture on D2L. This is for study use only, not for a grade. [It will not be graded but the material will be used on the exams. Please do not ask for the answers, once I provide the answers, the question will not be used on the exam.](#)

Labs

Labs will start the week of September 9. Everything will be provided to you in the lab, McCoy room 203, by your TA. Also, I will keep you updated via email.

Have paper, pencil, and a calculator to do all labs.

This is an important part of the course. The experiments introduce you to the world of experimental Physics. You cannot miss more than two labs. If you miss the 3rd

lab your grade will drop drastically by a letter grade and continue to drop a letter grade for every lab missed afterwards. Unless there has been an unforeseen circumstance like a medical emergency etc., have a medical or other valid excuse. Notify me prior to missing or no later than 24 hours after. Always keep me informed via email when missing labs and assignments etc. I will drop the lowest lab.

Questions:

I will send solved questions after each chapter to use for study material on the exam.

Exams

There will be 5 exams from the chapters, in this semester. They are constructed of multiple choice, true/false, and problem solving. The tests will contribute 60% of the final grade. There is no comprehensive final.

Final Exam

I will drop the lowest exam grade, but you have to take the final exam. The final exam must be at least 40/60 to be able to drop the lowest exam grade, but not the final exam. You must take the final exam. If you do not take the final exam, you will receive a 0/60 and add it with the other exams. I will not drop the lowest exam grade. This will greatly affect your final grade unless you have a valid excuse.

Extra Credit

There may be opportunities for extra credit during the semester, I will let you know if and when they become available.

Late Work

Late work is unacceptable without a valid excuse. Please reach out to me to inform me so we can work together to avoid any loss of points.

Make Up Work/Test

There will be no make-up labs because the lowest lab grade will be dropped unless there is a valid excuse. If you miss an exam due to personal illness, emergency, or a school related activity, you will be allowed to take a make-up exam. It is your responsibility to schedule a make-up exam by contacting me via e-mail. You must contact me within 24 hours and schedule a time to make up the exam. You will be allowed to make-up only one exam. If you miss a second exam, you will earn a zero on the second exam missed unless you have a valid excuse. The final exam cannot be made-up.

Important Dates

Check date on [Academic Calendar](#):

- last day for term schedule changes.
- deadline to file for graduation.
- last day to drop with a grade of "W".
- deadline to file for graduation.

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Those that have missed 5 days of class, in the first few weeks of the semester, will be dropped on the 6th day with a WN (Withdrawn for Non-Attendance) and will not receive a W grade. The only exception: Students representing the university away from campus or are on military orders will not be dropped as long as I am notified by email prior to first absence. Later, if you miss 6 lectures and/or 6 homework assignments in a row, I will drop you from class.

Online Computer Requirements

Taking an online class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings. Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. There are many places to access your class. Our online classes can be accessed from any computer which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer

semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still

requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady - Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled "Run. Hide. Fight." which may be electronically accessed via the University police department's webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

***Notice:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Schedule

Tentative Schedule for PHYS 1144 General Physics, Fall 2024

Week	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
Aug 26 – Aug 30	Introduction: Syllabus, Course Policies	Ch.1 Sec. 1.1 - 1.7	Ch. 2 Sec. 2.1 - 2.3
Sep 2 - Sep 6	Labor Day! No Class	Ch. 2 Sec. 2.4 - 2.7	Ch. 3 Sec. 3.1 - 3.3
Sep 9 - Sep 13	Ch. 3 Sec. 3.4 - 3.5	Ch. 3 Sec. 3.6 - 3.8	Exam 1 Ch.1, 2, 3
Sep 16 - Sep 20	Ch. 4 Sec. 4.1 - 4.2	Ch. 4 Sec. 4.3 - 4.5	Ch. 4 Sec. 4.6 - 4.7
Sep 23 - Sep 27	Ch. 5 Sec. 5.1 - 5.2	Ch. 5 Sec. 5.3 - 5.5	Ch. 5 Sec. 5.6 - 5.8
Sep 30 - Oct 4	Ch. 6 Sec. 6.1 - 6.4	Ch. 6 Sec. 6.5 - 6.6	Workshop
Oct 7 - Oct 11	Exam 2 Ch.4, 5, 6	Ch. 7 Sec. 7.1 - 7.2	Ch.7 Sec. 7.3 - 7.5
Oct 14 - Oct 18	Ch. 7 Sec. 7.6 - 7.7	Ch. 8 Sec. 8.1 - 8.3	Ch.8 Sec. 8.4 - 8.5
Oct 21- Oct 25	Workshop	Exam 3 Ch.7, 8	Ch.9 Sec. 9.1 - 9.4
Oct 28 - Nov 1	Ch.9 Sec. 9.5 - 9.7	Ch.10 Sec. 10.1 - 10.2	Ch.10 Sec. 10.3 - 10.5
Nov 4 - Nov 8	Ch.10 Sec. 10.6 - 10.10	Workshop	Exam 4 Ch.9, 10
Nov 11 - Nov 15	Ch.11 Sec. 11.1 - 11.2	Ch.11 Sec. 11.3 - 11.4	Ch.11 Sec. 11.5 - 11.8
Nov 18 - Nov. 22	Ch.12 Sec. 12.1 - 12.2	Ch.12 Sec. 12.3 - 12.4	Ch.12 Sec. 12.5 - 12.9
Nov 25 - Nov 29	Ch.13 Sec.13.1- 13.2	Thanksgiving Break	Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec 2 - Dec 6	Ch.13 Sec.13.4-13.5	Ch.13 Sec.13.6 - 13.7	Workshop
Dec 9- Dec 13	Final Exam Ch. 11, 12,13 (1:00 -3:00) pm		

The schedule may change slightly as the semester develops. However, students will be notified on D2L and directly via e-mail of any changes.