

PHYS 1511 College Physics I

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Office Hours: Tuesday 2:00-3:00pm,
Thursday 4:00-5:00pm,
Friday 9:30-10:30am
Or by Appointment

Department: Physics and Astronomy, 203 Van Allen Hall, DEO Fred Skiff

Description: This course is intended for pre-medical, pre-dental, and other students who desire a physics course without calculus. Mechanics, motion, sound, heat, and thermodynamics will be covered. The course does not require calculus, but will utilize algebra, geometry, and trigonometry. Numerical examples and lab experiments will be chosen to illustrate basic principles. Course grades will be based on homework, two in-class midterms, a final exam, and lab performance. The three weekly lectures are given by Prof. Halekas, and the lab and discussion sections are each conducted by a TA. We will cover Ch. 1-16 in the text. Specific reading and homework assignments will be listed on the course web page.

Lectures: MWF 8:30-9:20, Lecture Room 1 Van Allen Hall

Discussions/Labs: Individual by section

Required Text: *Cutnell & Johnson Physics 10e*, David Young and Shane Stadler.

Required Lab Text: *Experiments in Mechanics, Wave Motion, and Heat*, Fall 2015 Ed. Chuck Williamson and Anthony Moeller.

Course Web Pages: http://www.physics.uiowa.edu/~jhalekas/teaching/cphysI_2015/index.html
ICON: <https://icon.uiowa.edu/d2l/home/2418019>
WileyPLUS: <http://www.wileyplus.com/class/462360>

Clickers: The course will make extensive use of Student Response Systems, or “clickers,” during class meetings. Clickers are required for every class lecture and discussion and may be purchased along with your texts at the bookstore. You must register your clicker online at ICON <http://icon.uiowa.edu/> by selecting Student Tools, then Clicker

Registration. If you do not register your clicker in your name, you will not receive any participation credit. If you require help with your clicker or lose it, stop by the ITS Help Desk in the Old Capitol Mall, or e-mail its-helpdesk@uiowa.edu. The clicker channel is 44 for LR1.

Course Work: This is a 4 semester-hour course with lab. CLAS guidelines are that students should expect to spend two hours per semester-hour on study outside of class. This means 8 hours per week on homework, reading, and other course preparation.

Exam Schedule: **Two Midterm Exams:** **Midterm 1:** Friday 10/2 Ch. 1-6
Midterm 2: Friday 11/6 Ch. 7-11
Final Exam **Final Exam:** Date TBD (2 hours) Ch. 1-16

Grading:

Homework	20%
Labs	20%
Midterms	15% Each
Final Exam	30%
Participation	Extra Credit (see below)

Course grades will follow the standard College of Liberal Arts and Sciences grading system tabulated below. The grade of A+ will only be assigned for performance that is a full grade above an A, and +/- grades will in general be used sparingly. The college of liberal arts recommends the following grade distributions for elementary courses: A 15%, B 34%, C 40%, D 8%, F 3%. This distribution will be utilized as a first approximation in assigning final grades.

Grade	Description	Grade Point per Semester Hour
A+ / A / A-	Superior	4.33 / 4.00 / 3.67
B+ / B / B-	Above Average	3.33 / 3.00 / 2.67
C+ / C / C-	Average	2.33 / 2.00 / 1.67
D+ / D / D-	Below Average	1.33 / 1.00 / 0.67
F	Failing	0.0

Homework: Weekly homework assignments are to be completed online using WileyPLUS. All assignments must be completed online by the time specified. Late homework will not be accepted. You are allowed to work with other students on the homework, but each student must calculate the solutions to his/her own questions and submit the answers on WileyPLUS. WileyPLUS homework is electronically graded.

Reading: Reading assignments should be completed before lecture. Completion of the reading is essential for class discussion to be productive, and tests may include material not explicitly covered in class.

Labs: The laboratory assignments are a key part of the course, to be held under the supervision of your teaching assistant, who will also grade the laboratory reports. Questions about laboratory grading should be directed to your TA. Eating and drinking in the laboratory is not allowed. Conflicts between laboratory meeting times and night exams offered in other classes are to be resolved by the student asking for a make-up exam for the conflicting night exam. University policy is that instructors *must* offer such a make-up exam and that regularly scheduled class time, including laboratory, takes precedence over night exams. Only 10 of 11 labs will be counted toward the final grade, however, there will be *no* make-up labs.

Exams: Midterm exams will be held during regular class hours on the dates specified above. The final exam will be two hours, scheduled during finals week at a time to be announced. Midterm exams will cover the material specified above, and the final exam will be comprehensive. Exams may cover material not explicitly discussed in class – reading is important! There will be no make-ups for the one-hour exams except in truly extraordinary circumstances for which the student comes to the instructor *before* the exam to plan a make-up.

Exams will be closed book, will be multiple choice, and will include both conceptual questions and questions requiring calculations.

Absolutely no cheating on exams will be tolerated. Anyone caught copying or allowing someone else to copy from his or her exam will receive a zero for the exam, and may face disciplinary action.

Participation: Students will have an opportunity to receive extra credit for participating in class, as tracked by student's response to clicker questions. These questions are un-graded, so any response counts as participation, and there is no bonus for right answers or penalty for incorrect answers. If your participation grade is greater than 90%, then your worst midterm score will be improved by 10% (up to a maximum of 100%).

Absence Policy: Attendance is encouraged but not required for all regular class meetings, but any opportunities for extra credit through participation will not be made up for any reason in the event of absence (note that 90% = 100% for the purposes of the participation credit, so a few unavoidable absences will

not eliminate the student's opportunity for bonus credit).

Attendance during scheduled exams is required and make-up exams will only be given if the student comes to the instructor with appropriate justification *before* the exam to plan a make-up. Justification required is either a completed UI Student Absence form, or other statement regarding authorized activities signed by a responsible official.

Communication: Students may communicate with the professor by phone, e-mail, or in person. However, e-mail messages and phone calls may not be answered immediately (other than in true emergencies). Students with issues or questions should if possible raise them in person, in discussion, by attending office hours, or by scheduling an appointment with the professor.

Physics Tutorials: Teaching assistants are available for free tutoring in the TILE Commons Room, 310 Van Allen Hall, during posted hours. While you are strongly encouraged to seek help from the TAs and the instructor, do not expect them to do your homework for you.

College of Liberal Arts and Science Policies & Resources

Administrative Home

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is the administrative home of this course and governs matters such as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, and other related issues. Different colleges may have different policies. Questions may be addressed to 120 Schaeffer Hall, or see the CLAS Academic Policies Handbook at <http://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook>.

Electronic Communication

University policy specifies that students are responsible for all official correspondences sent to their University of Iowa e-mail address (@uiowa.edu). Faculty and students should use this account for correspondences ([Operations Manual, III.15.2](#), k.11).

Accommodations for Disabilities

A student seeking academic accommodations should first register with Student Disability Services and then meet with the course instructor privately in the instructor's office to make particular arrangements. See <http://sds.studentlife.uiowa.edu/> for more information.

Academic Honesty

All CLAS students or students taking classes offered by CLAS have, in essence, agreed to the College's [Code of Academic Honesty](#): "I pledge to do my own academic work and to excel to the best of my abilities, upholding the [IOWA Challenge](#). I promise not to lie about my academic work, to cheat, or to steal the words or ideas of others; nor will I help fellow students to violate the Code of Academic Honesty." Any student committing academic misconduct is reported to the College and placed on disciplinary probation or may be suspended or expelled ([CLAS Academic Policies Handbook](#)).

CLAS Final Examination Policies

The final examination schedule for each class is announced by the Registrar, generally by the fifth week of classes. Final exams are offered only during the official final examination period. **No exams of any kind are allowed during the last week of classes.** All students should plan on being at the UI through the final examination period. Once the Registrar has announced the date, time, and location of each final exam, the

complete schedule will be published on the Registrar's web site and will be shared with instructors and students. It is the student's responsibility to know the date, time, and place of a final exam.

Making a Suggestion or a Complaint

Students with a suggestion or complaint should first visit with the instructor (and the course supervisor), and then with the departmental DEO. Complaints must be made within six months of the incident (CLAS [Academic Policies Handbook](#)).

Understanding Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UI community have a responsibility to uphold this mission and to contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment should be reported immediately. See the UI [Comprehensive Guide on Sexual Harassment](#) for assistance, definitions, and the full University policy.

Reacting Safely to Severe Weather

In severe weather, class members should seek appropriate shelter immediately, leaving the classroom if necessary. The class will continue if possible when the event is over. For more information on Hawk Alert and the siren warning system, visit the [Department of Public Safety website](#).