

PHYS 133 LAB SYLLABUS - WINTER 2015

Instructor

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Your lab TA is here to help! Feel free to ask me questions and contact me anytime via email if you have questions or concerns about the class or your work. We understand that this can be a challenging course, and I am happy to do my best to assist you.

About the Lab

1. There will be a total of ten labs over the course of the winter session, including one night observation lab, which will be held during the scheduled evening sessions on the **first clear night** available. In this event, you will be notified by 2pm the day of the lab. If there is a night lab, pay special attention to your email, as last-minute weather changes may lead to late-notice cancellations.
2. Lab Manuals are those provided by Dr. Sundqvist. *You are responsible for printing your own lab manual before the start of each lab session! Make sure your labs and prelabs are stapled!*
3. The Math Review packet is due the third day of lab (see schedule below). Late submissions will not be accepted.
4. You are expected to arrive **on time** for labs. Occasional late arrivals are expected, but repeated late arrival will count against your final lab grade. If you have a special circumstance (such as work interfering with the beginning of your lab session), please make special arrangements with me in advance to avoid any misunderstandings.
5. At the beginning of each lab, I will give you instructions for the lab and any announcements for the course. Lab work should begin *after* I finishes speaking.
6. Labs are completed in groups of two. You are allowed to choose your own partners within the lab. Changes to this structure are at my discretion.
7. Prelabs are to be completed *before* the start of each lab session, and are to be submitted **as soon as you walk in the door**. Late submissions will not be received. **Prelabs must be completed on the pages given as part of each lab module**. If you have questions about the prelab, **make sure you ask in advance**; questions about the prelab will **not** be answered at the beginning of the lab session.
8. One lab report per group is to be submitted at the end of each session. Make sure all your group members' names are written on the report, or you will not receive credit for the lab! Authorship (that is, the responsibilities of the group scribe), rotates throughout the semester. *Please make sure your handwriting is neat and legible; if I can't read it, I can't grade it!*
9. The use of cell phones during the lab sessions is strictly prohibited.

Grading

1. Unless asked, you must justify your work. Writing "yes" or "no" is not acceptable unless specifically asked. Give logical reasons for your responses; otherwise, 75% of the points for the question will be deducted. Detailed calculations should be shown in both your prelab and lab reports when numerical calculations are required. No work receives no credit!
2. Units, when necessary, must be stated for each answer. If not, 25% of the points for the question will be deducted.

3. Any concerns regarding the grading of a lab should be reported to me within one week of that lab's return. After that, grading concerns will not be addressed.
4. Your total lab grade counts as 20% of the total course grade; the prelab is approximately 30% of the lab grade, and lab work is approximately 70%.
5. *Regular lab attendance is required. There will be no make-up labs.* If you attend all lab sessions, your lowest grade will be dropped. If you need to miss a lab, that day will count as your "dropped" score. *The nighttime lab is a requirement for everyone and may not count as your dropped lab.* The Math Review packet also may not be dropped. We suggest you save your "dropped lab" for emergencies rather than attending a party. In addition, late labs will not be accepted.

Important: Cheating Policy

You are, as in all classes, bound by the University's policy on cheating, plagiarism, and academic misconduct. *This means that any answers obtained using the web (like Google) must be cited and rephrased (not copied, unless you cite your source and use quotation marks!). Failure to adhere to this policy will result in the deduction of points from your lab and other disciplinary actions as necessary.* We are required to report any cases of cheating to the University, **including copying and allowing your work to be copied.** Note that you are also bound by federal, state, and local laws. You can refer to <http://www.udel.edu/stuguide/13-14/code.html#honesty> for more information.

Tentative Schedule of Labs, Spring 2014

The schedule below is subject to change at the discretion of your instructors. As mentioned, night observation occurs on the first clear night; if you have a night observation scheduled, that will be substituted for the usually-scheduled in-class lab. The dates given below are for the start of each week.

- Jan. 5th-6th: Introduction to Astronomy
- Jan. 7th-8th: Stellarium Lab
- Jan. 12th-13th: Moons of Jupiter
Math Review Packet is Due!
- Jan. 14th-15th: Mass/Radius of Earth
- Jan. 19th-20th: No Labs (MLK Jr Day)
- Jan. 21st-22nd: Spectra
- Jan. 26th-27th: Parallax
- Jan. 28th-29th: Solar Rotation
- Feb. 2nd-3rd: Hubble Redshift
- Feb. 4th-5th: Inventing Life Forms
Good Luck With Finals!

Clear Night: Night Observation, Moon Lab

