

# PHYSICS 211 - Fall 2010

Instructor: Jeff Vanhoy    Office: Chauvenet 266    Lab: Chauvenet 028    use e-mail!

If you are absent from a class, you are personally responsible for anything you have missed.

Testbook: *Fundamentals of Physics* 9<sup>th</sup> ed, Halliday, Resnick, Walker

Website: [www.wileyPLUS.com](http://www.wileyPLUS.com)

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| 211 - Section 1126 - Fall '10 - VANHOY | <a href="http://edugen.wiley.com/edugen/class/cls177753/">http://edugen.wiley.com/edugen/class/cls177753/</a> |
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Lecture Sessions: A variety of activities are planned for the lecture period. These may include  
review of selected topics and problem solving techniques  
group problem solving examples,  
worksheets on concepts and misconceptions  
question-and-answer sessions using *eInstruction CPS*.

Grades: Actual breakpoints for letter grades are determined at the end of each marking period. I do not necessarily use a "10 point" scale for converting numerical grades to letter grades. Approximate breakpoints are 90/80/70/60. I will provide you with a status report near the end of each marking period. I reserve the right to modify the percentages given below slightly.

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|--|-----|
| Final Exam Grade                       | 25% |
| Course Exams Grade                     | 33% |
| Homework Grades: HW and HW Quiz        | 30% |
| Other: Group Activities, Lab, CPS, etc | 12% |

Additional information on these classifications follows.

Final Exam Grade:

The final exam is a course-wide common exam. The "curved" grade is provided to me from the grading committee.

Course Exams Grade:

There will be three exams during the course. The exact dates are negotiable and will be chosen by class vote. A tentative schedule is:

|        |  |                 |
|--------|--|-----------------|
| Exam 1 | Motion and Forces: Ch1-6                     | week of 20 Sept |
| Exam 2 | Energy and Momentum: Ch7-11                  | week of 1 Nov   |
| Exam 3 | Gravitation, Simple Harmonic, Waves: Ch13-17 | week of 6 Dec   |

The curve will be set based on my experience with the material.

Homework Grade:

Much of our homework will be done using the online system WileyPLUS – an integrated textbook, problem set, video, & help system. [www.wileyPLUS.com](http://www.wileyPLUS.com)

I intend to have a short quiz once a week taken from the homework.

## Other Notes

Laboratory: Do not miss lab. Once the equipment is dismantled, it cannot be set back up

Missed Classes: Current USNA rules state that you must be present at both the beginning and end of class to be counted present. If you are going to miss class, please let me know in advance preferably via e-mail or in class. It is in your best interest to take quizzes and tests in advance. I do not recommend after-the fact make-ups. Missing an exam will yield a fate worse than death itself.

EI. I am around Monday - Friday from ~0700am including lunch most days. You are welcome to stop by anytime but a prior warning would be greatly appreciated. I tend to be off-campus on Thursdays for a significant part of the day.

### Technical Notes:

1. Each person must hand in work in their own handwriting. Photocopying is not acceptable.
2. If you are going to be absent on a due date either bring it by my office early or give it to a classmate. If the situation is more complicated, please see me.
3. Exams are curved and averaged by the following scheme. For each individual test, **if** the class average is acceptable, then a z-score is generated:

$$z = (\text{Your grade on test} - \text{class average}) / (\text{class std deviation}).$$

The z-score measures how far you are above/below the average grade in the class. At grade-reporting-time, the z-scores are averaged and then "curved" to an average of 75 with a standard deviation of ~10.

$$\text{Test Ave} = 75 + \sim 10 * \langle z \rangle$$

4. The "Homework" and "Other Grade" is calculated by the scheme:  
$$\text{HW,Q} = \text{SUM}(\text{points achieved}) / \text{SUM}(\text{max points obtainable}).$$
Individual items in the SUM are not equally weighted.

### Legal Mumbo-Jumbo

1. "All work submitted for grading must be the product of the student(s) whose name(s) is and (are) recorded on the material and who are therefore claiming academic credit. It is legally and morally unacceptable to submit the work of another person as your own. The use of unauthorized assistance, as defined by your course instructor, on graded assignments is a violation of the honor concept."
2. From Course Coordinators: "The following applies to ALL sections of SP211: Students are forbidden to use or possess any instructor's solutions manual, in any form, for any textbook for which Halliday, Resnick, & Walker are the authors."
3. Do not engage in any activity which could be considered cheating by a reasonable or unreasonable person.