Physics 2130
General Physics 3: Modern Physics
Fall, 2002
http://www.colorado.edu/physics/phys2130

Instructor: Prof. Mike Ritzwoller
Gamow Tower, Duane F-721
Office: 492-7075, Fax: 492-7935 email: ritzwoller@ciei.colorado.edu
Instructor’s office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 4:30-6:00 PM in Duane F721.
Other hours will be announced during exam weeks and students are welcome
to make an appointment.

T.A.s: See the course’s web site.


Lectures: MWF 1:00 - 1:50 AM, Duane G-1B20.

Web Site: http://www.colorado.edu/physics/phys2130 links to http://ciei.colorado.edu/physics2130.
Homework assignments and solutions, exam solutions, and selected lecture materials will be available
on this site.

Prerequisites:
Physics 1110 and 1120 or equivalent calculus based physics sequence. Co-requisite is Math 2400
(Calc III) or equivalent. Most significantly, you should have completed Physics 1110 (General Physics
I: Mechanics & Heat) or equivalent and be, at least, currently registered in Calc III. If you do not
meet these requirements, please see the instructor.

Exams, Homework and Grading:

Exams: We will deviate from the exam schedule outlined in the Registration Handbook. There
will be two midterms (not three) and a final exam. The midterms will be held in class, not on the
Tuesday evenings listed in the Handbook, on Friday October 5 and Friday November 8. The
final exam will be cumulative and will be held on Monday December 16 between 10:30 AM
- 1:00 PM in the regular classroom. The exams will be closed-book, but students can bring one
double-sided 8.5 x 11 information sheet to each exam. Bring a calculator to each exam and a pencil
and eraser.

Homework: A weekly homework set will be handed out that will be due, typically, each Wednesday.
There will be a total of 13 written homeworks. There will not be any homeworks in the weeks
following the midterm exams. Homeworks should be handed-in before class in the alphabetically or-
ganized boxes in the back of the lecture hall. Late assignments will not be accepted, but the
lowest homework score of the semester will be dropped. Homework solutions will be posted
on the course’s web page. Graded homeworks will also be returned to students in the boxes at the back of the lecture hall, usually at the end of the next class.

**Grading:** Grading will be as follows. Midterm exams will be worth 100 points each, totaling 200 points. The final exam will also be worth 200 points. All homework scores will be added, dropping the lowest score and then the total will be normalized to 171 points. Thus, the distribution of points will look as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>graded item</th>
<th>date</th>
<th>value</th>
<th>percentage of total points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Exam I</td>
<td>10/5/02</td>
<td>100 pts.</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Exam II</td>
<td>11/8/02</td>
<td>100 pts.</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>12/16/02</td>
<td>200 pts.</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeworks</td>
<td>weekly</td>
<td>171 pts.</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>571 pts.</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The total number of points for all students will be curved so that the median class score will approximately define the B-/C+ boundary. Note that the homework scores constitute 30% of the final grade. It will be very difficult to pass the course without doing the homework.

**Web Page:**

The course’s web page will provide key information during the semester. It will give the homework assignments, their due dates, and solutions; miscellaneous lecture notes; exam solutions; as well as up-to-date contact information for the instructor and the TAs. Any scheduling information that will change during the semester will be reflected in modifications to the web page. Although homework assignments will be handed out in class on hard-copy, solutions will be posted only on the web site. Solutions and lecture notes will be posted in pdf format, so students are encouraged to ensure that their web browser can display and print from pdf. Students who do not have web access or printing capabilities, should make provisions with the instructor to get the homework solutions in hard-copy form. Students are encouraged to check the web page often.

**Attendance:**

Attendance is not mandatory. However, lectures will be designed to complement the text so that not all required material will be covered fully in the reading assignments. Students who attend class will be expected to arrive on time and leave when the instructor is done speaking, typically about 10 minutes before the hour. Late arrivals and early departures tend to disrupt the class in G-1B20 more than students recognize.

**Disabilities:**

Students with disabilities who may need academic accommodations should discuss options with the instructor during the first two weeks of class.