

Grading Policy and Assignments

Your overall grade will be as follows:

95% best four out of the five in-class exams

5% in-class participation

Letter grades will be assigned from your overall numerical grade according to the following:

A 90.0 **A-** 87.5 **B+** 85.0 **B** 80.0 **B-** 78.5 **C+** 75.0 **C** 70.0 **C-** 67.5 **D** 60.0 **F**

Overall numerical grades will *not* be rounded (i.e., 89.9 is still an A-).

Any requests for a regrade of an exam must be made no later than one week after the item is returned. For a regrade I will look at the entire exam, not just one problem, and this may raise *or* lower your score.

Exams

There will be five in-class exams. All exams will be closed-book and closed-notes.

Exams will comprise questions that are similar to homework, practice problems, and in-class examples.

Exams are designed to test your understanding thoroughly and to distinguish among levels of performance. In order for exams to be effective assessments, raw scores will often be lower than the expectations created by the “standard” letter grade cutoffs. These raw exam scores will be converted into “rescaled” numerical grades. This conversion is based partly on the distribution of raw scores, but also on the difficulty level of the exam. A rescaled numerical grade will *never* be lower than your raw score. Also, unlike a typical curve, you are *not competing* against your peers; it is possible for everyone to get an A or B, for example.

There will be no make-up exams.

Homework

Regular, personal practice with physics problems is essential to understanding physics, so you will have weekly homework assignments. Assignments will be posted online, as well as the solutions. We will offer weekly evening sessions to discuss the problems. The homework will not be graded, but it is of utmost importance that you work the problems to ensure a successful outcome in the exams.

Teamwork can be a very effective way to learn, so I encourage you to collaborate with your classmates on homework problems.

However, since you can't collaborate on exams, homework is your best opportunity to develop your own problem-solving skills.

Academic Honesty

The University of Georgia has a comprehensive policy on academic honesty.

As a UGA student, you are responsible for knowing and understanding this policy. If you have *any* question about the appropriateness of your actions or your work, you are obligated to ask me for clarification.

I take the issue of academic honesty very seriously, and it is my responsibility to uphold the University's policy. This means, among other things, that I won't hesitate to report my suspicions of dishonesty to the Office of the Vice President for Instruction. Typical consequences of cheating on homework or an exam range from receiving a zero for that grade, to failing the course.

Student Responsibilities

- Above all, you have the right to expect courtesy from your fellow students, and the same will be asked of you. Courtesy includes the expectation that everyone will come to class ready and willing to learn and to interact, and able to ask or answer questions freely. Courtesy also implies that you arrive on time and stay until the end of class. Disruptions or distracting behavior will not be tolerated.
- You're responsible for all topics discussed in class, all class announcements, and all assigned textbook reading (even if some sections aren't explicitly covered in class). Absence does not excuse you from this responsibility. Your attendance is mandatory, because your understanding of physics (and your grade) will suffer if you skip class. If your schedule makes it difficult to attend class regularly and on-time, you shouldn't take this course.
- You are responsible for the material covered in the assignments. I can't emphasize enough the importance of homework! Just as with other areas of learning, your physics problem-solving skills will improve only by practicing regularly and conscientiously.
- Ask for clarification on anything you find unclear, ambiguous, or unspecified. This includes both course policies and physics topics. Ignorance is never a valid excuse.
- Know the policies concerning withdrawals and incompletes.

Lecture Schedule

- The lecture and exam schedule shown on the next page is approximate and subject to modification, *including exam dates*.

Class	Date	Reading	Homework
1	M 14 Aug		Course Intro, Energy
2	W 16 Aug	Ch. 1	
3	F 19 Aug		
4	M 21 Aug		
5	W 23 Aug	Ch. 2	
6	F 25 Aug		Ch. 1
7	M 28 Aug		
8	W 30 Aug	Ch. 3	
9	F 1 Sep		Ch. 2
	M 04 Sep		Labor Day
10	W 06 Sep	Ch. 4	
11	F 08 Sep		Exam 1
12	M 11 Sep		
13	W 13 Sep	Ch. 5	Ch. 4
14	W 14 Sep		
15	M 18 Sep		
16	W 20 Sep	Ch. 6	
17	F 22 Sep		Exam 2
18	M 25 Sep		
19	W 27 Sep		
20	F 29 Sep	Ch. 7	
21	M 02 Oct		Ch. 6
22	W 04 Oct		
23	F 06 Oct		
24	M 09 Oct	Ch. 8	
25	W 11 Oct		
26	F 13 Oct		Ch. 7
27	M 16 Oct		Exam 3
28	W 18 Oct	Ch. 9	
29	F 20 Oct		Ch. 8
30	M 23 Oct		
31	W 25 Oct	Ch. 10	
32	F 27 Oct		Fall Break
33	M 30 Oct	Ch. 11	
34	W 01 Nov		
35	F 03 Nov		
36	M 06 Nov		Exam 4
37	W 08 Nov		Ch. 11
38	F 10 Nov		
39	M 13 Nov	Ch. 12	
40	W 15 Nov		Ch. 11
41	F 17 Nov		
42	M 27 Nov	Ch. 13	Ch. 12
43	W 29 Nov		
44	F 01 Dec		
45	M 05 Dec		Exam 5