Lab Syllabus Fall 2017

Physics 151L (1111) - General Physics Lab
Fall – 2017

Syllabus

General Information
Course Meeting: Thursday 3:00-5:00
Instructor: David Kirkland
Email: davidkirkland@nevada.unr.edu
Office: LP 303
Mail box: TA Mail Box (located on the second floor of LP)
Office hours: M,T,W,F 1:00-3:00 (and by appointment)
E-mail is recommended
Lab manuals webpage: http://www.unr.edu/physics/student-resources/labs

Class Description and Objectives:

1. Students will be able to demonstrate problem solving skills in various types of problems in physics using quantitative reasoning, critical thinking and appropriate mathematical techniques.

2. Students will be able to demonstrate skills in collection and interpretation of data from laboratory experiments.

Course Prerequisites: No Prerequisites

Student Learning Outcomes:

The purpose of the course is to provide the practical knowledge necessary for a well-rounded understanding of the physical world. This laboratory experience partially satisfies the Silver Core Objective CO4: Physical & Natural Phenomena. Students that successfully complete this course should be able to:

i. The student will demonstrate problem solving skills in various types of problems in physics using quantitative reasoning, critical thinking and appropriate mathematical techniques.

ii. The student will demonstrate the ability of use scientific methods to understand and explain concepts in physics.

iii. The student will be able to connect physics concepts and problems to their world experience.

iv. The student will demonstrate skills in collection and interpretation of data from laboratory experiments
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Lab reports:
• The objective, theory and pre-lab section of your lab report should be completed prior to class.
• Your original data must be recorded in your lab notebook, it is the student's responsibility to make sure that the original data is signed or initialed by the instructor, before leaving the lab. This signature will be counted as attendance. Lack of signature on original data is grounds for a grade of zero.
  • Lab reports are due at the end of each class period. Students will turn in individual reports.
  • Lab reports are due at the end of the class period; late labs will not be accepted without good cause and prior permission from the instructor.
  • Lab reports that contain copied and or plagiarized material will be given a zero. Lab reports that are not written in your own words will be given a zero. Lab reports for lab experiments the student did not perform will be given a zero.
  • The first lab report that contains copied or plagiarized material will be given a grade of zero. The second occurrence will drop your final grade by one letter grade. The third lab that contains copied or plagiarized material will get you an F for the class.
  • Neatly, hand-written lab reports are accepted. Illegible lab reports are unacceptable and will be given a grade of zero.
  • Follow the rubric when writing up lab reports. This format can be found on the lab manual website. Lab reports that do not follow the rubric will be graded down.
  • Labs that are not written in the lab notebook will be subject to a 5 point (one letter grade) penalty.

Attendance:
You are required to attend all the classes. If you must miss a lab due to a justifiable excuse (you must document your: illness, emergency, court date...) or pre-arranged your absence, you should arrange to make up the lab during a different lab session that week (the week of your absence). You must contact both instructors before attending another lab section. No more than three labs may be made up in another section. If you are missing or fail to turn in three or more lab reports you will receive a failing grade for the lab. Lab reports that are turned in for experiments which you did not attend/perform will be given a grade of zero. There are no mulligans, rewrites or do-overs. You are expected to be in class (in body and mind) on time.

Laboratory safety:
Experimental work can expose one to various kinds of hazards (electric shocks, burns, cuts, defenestration...), every person working in the laboratory should maintain “situational awareness” of their surroundings, so as to avoid possible injury. Be aware and reduce the risk of injury and/or damaging the equipment. Report any accident immediately.

http://www.realclearscience.com/lists/worst_lab_accidents_in_history/
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Statement on Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, plagiarism or otherwise obtaining grades under false pretenses" constitute academic dishonesty according to the code of this university. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and penalties can include canceling a student's enrollment without a grade, giving an F for the course or for the assignment.

Statement on Audio and Video Recording: Surreptitious or covert video-taping of class or unauthorized audio recording of class is prohibited by law and by Board of Regents policy. This class may be videotaped or audio recorded only with the written permission of the instructor. In order to accommodate students with disabilities, some students may have been given permission to record class lectures and discussions. Therefore, students should understand that their comments during class may be recorded.

The University of Nevada, Reno is committed to providing a safe learning and work environment for all. If you believe you have experienced discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, or stalking, whether on or off campus, or need information related to immigration concerns, please contact the University’s Equal Opportunity & Title IX Office at 775-784-1547. Resources and interim measures are available to assist you.