



PHYSICS  
Science  
Waves, Optics & Modern Physics

There are two grading schemes. **Your final grade will be the higher of the two schemes.**

Assignments, quizzes and class tests <sup>y</sup>	55%	35%
Laboratory activities	15%	15%
Final examination	30%	50%

<sup>y</sup>Your teacher will provide a detailed breakdown of these components and a tentative test schedule during the first week of class.

In order to pass the course, students must show a basic understanding of the course material at the level covered in the lectures and in the lab. This is achieved by attaining a final grade of at least 60%, calculated according to the evaluation scheme above. **Note: course work not submitted by the due date may be penalized at the teacher's discretion.**

#### Reference materials

1. **Physics for Scientists and Engineers (with Enhanced WebAssign) by Serway & Jewett, 9th edition** or **Physics for Scientists and Engineers (with Mastering Physics) by Knight, 4th edition**. Custom packages for Dawson College NYC are available at the bookstore which include an access code for the online homework system. Your teacher will tell you which textbook will be used in your section.
2. **Library copies:** Copies of the textbook are available on reserve in the Dawson Library.

#### Teaching methods

The material will be presented using a mix of active learning activities, lectures, in-class problem solving, laboratory experiments and demonstrations. Laboratory periods will be used for experiments as well as class tests and lectures.

#### Attendance & participation

Although class attendance is not compulsory, students should make every effort to attend all classes. In the event that a class is missed, the student is responsible for all material covered or assigned during that class. **Attendance during laboratory experiments and for class tests is however compulsory.** In the rare event that a student for valid reason (*e.g.* due to an intensive course, illness, *etc.*) is or anticipates to be absent during a laboratory experiment or for a class test, the student **must**, where possible, inform the teacher and provide the necessary documents before the absence or, at the latest, on the day of their return. If the absence is excused, students will have the opportunity to complete the assessment.

All other assessments (readings, quizzes, lab activities, *etc.*) missed due to absence are:

- assigned a grade of zero where the absence is not excused;
- given zero weight in the calculation of the final grade where the absence is excused.

For additional information regarding attendance, students should refer to the Institutional Student Evaluation Policy (ISEP section IV-C).

#### Literacy standards

It is expected that students will be able to comprehend the course material and express themselves appropriately as a normal part of their academic performance in the course. Marks may be deducted for inadequate communication skills.

#### Laboratory work

Experimentation is an essential part of science. Students will be expected to perform experiments and report on their results. Your teacher will provide you with instructions for lab experiments and activities (there is no manual to purchase). **Students must be present during the entire lab activity to receive credit.**

#### Student conduct

Everyone has the right to a safe and non-violent environment. Students are obliged to conduct themselves as stated in the Student Code of Conduct and in the ISEP section on the roles and responsibilities of students (ISEP section II-D). Disruptions or excessive noise will not be tolerated. Students who do not comply with these rules will be asked to leave the class and may be referred to Student's Services for disciplinary action. **Mutual respect is the key to a harmonious learning environment.**

#### Academic integrity

Cheating, copying, or any other form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Students should

**Intensive course contacts**

If a student is attending an intensive course, the student must inform the teacher, within the first two weeks of class, of the specific dates of any anticipated absences.

**Policy on religious observance**

Students who intend to observe religious holidays must inform their teachers in writing as prescribed in the ISEP Policy on Religious Observance (ISEP Section IV-D), within the first two weeks of the semester. Forms for this purpose are available from your teacher. Your teacher will inform you of any modifications to planned course activities resulting from the teacher's own religious commitments.

**Course content**

The material to be covered is contained in the following chapters and sections of **Physics for Scientists and Engineers by Serway & Jewett, 9th edition.**

Weeks	Topics	Chapter & Section
1{2	Periodic motion	Ch.15: 1{5; sections 6 and 7 qualitatively (quantitative optional for 6, 7)
2{4	Mechanical waves	Ch.16: 1{5 (6 optional)
4{6	Sound waves and hearing	Ch.17: 1 and 2 qualitatively; 3, 4
6{7	Superposition and standing waves	Ch.18: 1{5, 7; 8 qualitatively
8	Electromagnetic waves	Ch.34: 7 (EM spectrum)
8	Nature and propagation of light	Ch.35: all; Ch.38: 6 qualitatively
9	Interference	Ch.37: 1{5
10	Diffraction	Ch.38: 1, 2 (intensity optional), 3, 4 without derivations
11	Relativity	Ch.39: 1, 3, 4, 7, 8
12{13	Introduction to quantum mechanics	Ch.40: 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 (8 optional)
14	Atomic physics	Ch.42: 1{3 (9, 10 optional)
14{15	Nuclear physics	Ch.44: 1, 2, 4{6 (8 optional)
15	Applications of nuclear physics	Ch.45: (all optional)

The material to be covered is contained in the following chapters and sections of **Physics for Scientists and Engineers by Knight, 4th edition.**

Weeks	Topics	Chapter & Section
1{2	Oscillations	Ch.15: 1{6 (physical pendulum optional), 7{8 (qualitatively)
3{4	Travelling waves	Ch.16: 1{3, 4 (optional), 5, 6 (qualitatively), 7{9
5{6	Superposition	Ch.17: 1{7
7{8	Wave optics	Ch.33: 1{7
9	Ray optics	Ch.34: 1{3
10	Relativity	Ch.36: 3, 6, 7, 9 and 10 (1, 2, 4, 5, 8 optional)
11	Foundations of modern physics	Ch.37: 1, 2 (3{8 qualitatively)
11{13	Quantization	Ch.38: 1{7
14	Wave functions and uncertainty	Ch.39: 6 (optional)
14{15	Nuclear physics	Ch.42: 1{3, 5, 6 (4 and 7 optional)

**Comprehensive examination**

Second-year students can opt to complete the independent study portion of their comprehensive examination in this course. (This option is not available in continuing education courses.) The project will be evaluated on pass or fail basis independently from the course grade.

**Questions  
outside class**

All regular day program teachers will be available in their respective offices to their students during posted office hours. In the first week, your teacher will inform you of their schedule and will post it outside their office.

Room 7A.1 is the physics study room. At scheduled times, a teacher or peer tutor will be on duty there to answer your questions. The schedule of teachers and peer tutors will be posted outside of 7A.1 in the 2nd or 3rd week of term.