

Syllabus

Course Objective

Physics 103 is the first half of a two-semester course that provides an introduction to the principles of physics using algebra and trigonometry. Topics covered in the Fall semester include mechanics, wave phenomena, and fluids. The Spring semester will be devoted to topics in electricity and magnetism, optics, and modern physics.

The requirements for this course will consist of weekly homework assignments, in-class exercises, quizzes, three in-class exams, a final exam, and laboratory work.

Contact Information:

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Office Hours:

Mon: 2:00-4:00 pm

Thursday: 10:00-12:00 am

Other: By appointment

During every class

Our lecture class meets MWF from 10:50 to 11:50 AM in Valentine 202. Topics covered each week are listed in the Course Schedule. Our text is *Physics 2nd Ed.* by Giambattista, Richardson and Richardson. Please register for this class on ANGEL, which will be used for announcements and course material distribution. <http://angel.stlawu.edu>.

Clickers: We will be using the iClicker system during the lectures for evaluation and polling, and it will count as part of your course grade. The iClickers can be purchased at the College Bookstore. Using another student's iClicker in class to answer questions is considered cheating. Please don't even think about it. Further instructions on registering your clickers will be provided during class.

Reading Assignments: Students are expected to have read the relevant textbook section listed in the Course Schedule *prior* to coming to class. A clicker question about the day's reading may be asked during class.

During every week

Laboratory: The laboratory is required, and scheduling conflicts should be discussed with one of the instructors before lab meets. Your lab grade is averaged with your class grade as described below. **Failure to pass the lab will result in failure in the course.** Please read the lab handouts prior to lab, which can be found here:

http://myslu.stlawu.edu/~jmil/physics/labs/103_lab/103lab.shtml.

Material discussed in lab will be covered on exams and quizzes.

Quizzes: Friday quizzes will be on material covered in the previous week in lecture and lab. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

Homework: Problem sets are assigned weekly on Monday and cover that week's topics. Homework is divided into two steps.

Step 1: For the first step, you should try to solve every single problem *leaving room for corrections!* You may work in groups, but you should attempt to solve the problems on your own before you seek help. The homework is due at the beginning of class. Up to 4 points are awarded for your attempt to solve each problem. The problem sets are returned in a folder outside my office by the end of the day on Monday. Again *leave room for corrections!*

Stage 2: The solutions to the homework will be posted on the Angel website after class on Monday. Using these solutions and another color writing utensil, you should make your corrections to your first attempt with the help of the solution set. Don't just copy, as you won't receive credit for copying. Your goal is to find your mistake and correct it. Indicate what you did wrong. If you did the problem correctly, you should indicate that by writing *Correct* on the problem. The corrected homework is due at the beginning of class on Wednesday (in Valentine 202)

Late homework: For step 1, 10 points will be deducted from the homework grade if it is not turned in on time. If the first step is not turned in by Monday at the end of the day, we won't have time to check it off, and you will lose all credit for step 1. For step 2, 10 points will be deducted from the homework grade for each day it is late. Late homework will not be accepted after Friday. In the case of a known absence, homework can be turned in by another student or to the instructor before class. Please talk to the instructor if you know you will be missing class.

Dropping lowest grade: The lowest homework assignment grade will be dropped.

During the semester

Exams: There will be three in-class exams covering the material completed before each exam in lecture, homework and lab. Half of the lowest exam grade will be dropped. The final exam will be cumulative but will concentrate on the chapters that have not been tested.

Grading: Homework, 10%, Clickers, 5%, Quizzes, 15%, Laboratory, 15%, In class exams, 30%, Final exam, 25%

The final grade will be determined by the following scale:

4.0	3.75	3.5	3.25	3.0	2.75	2.5	2.25	2.0	1.75	1.5	1.25	1.0	0.0
94 - 100%	91- 93.9%	88 - 90.9%	85- 87.9%	82 - 84.9%	79 - 81.9%	76 - 78.9%	73- 75.9%	70 - 72.9%	67- 69.9%	64 - 66.9%	61- 63.9%	60 - 61.9%	below 60 %

From the Handbook's Academic Honor Policy

All St. Lawrence students are bound by honor to maintain the highest level of academic integrity. By virtue of membership in the St. Lawrence community, every student accepts the responsibility to know the rules of academic honesty, to abide by them at all times, and to encourage all others to do the same.