

PHYS 2125 – Physics I Laboratory

Preliminary Syllabus

June 4, 2008

Tuesday 5:30 – 10:15, WW 254

Thursday 5:30 – 10:15, WW 254

Instructor: John H. Morrison

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I do not have an office, so I cannot have office hours. However, I will *try* to arrive at least a half an hour before class begins. Alternatively, if you need help, you may telephone or email me. We could set an appointment to meet.

This is the laboratory class associated with PHYS 2325, University Physics I. That class or the equivalent is a corequisite. The class is also the laboratory component of PHYS 1401, College Physics I. For the most part, the work will be the same except for the tests. The experiments are done in groups, and each group will turn in a single report. The class schedule is at the end of this syllabus.

Instructors have been asked to include this statement in the syllabus: “Students who repeat a course for a third or more times may soon face significant tuition/fee increases at HCC and other Texas public colleges and universities. Please ask your instructor / counselor about opportunities for tutoring / other assistance prior to considering course withdrawal or if you are not receiving passing grades.” Furthermore, Texas has now limited students to six withdrawals total (in Texas public colleges.)

As an instructor, I can no longer assign W (Withdrawal) as a final grade. Therefore, if you withdraw from the class (or stop attending), you must

formally withdraw yourself by the HCC deadline. Otherwise, I will assign an appropriate grade — most likely an F.

Textbook Edmonds, *Cioffari's Experiments in College Physics*, 10th ed.

Tests Tests will be held on Tuesday, June 17, and Thursday, July 3. For both tests, please bring your own blank paper (or blue book).

Extra Credit Paper Write a short report about a topic related to physics. The report could be based on an article, a book, a video, or a field trip. The report should be at least two and a half pages long, double-spaced and single-sided, or the equivalent length. It must be your own writing. Alternatively, you may write a formal report on one of the experiments.

Grading The following items will determine the grade score, at the given percentages. The minimum score for each letter grade will be determined later.

- Two Tests — 20% each
- Laboratory — 60% total
- Extra Credit Paper — 5%

Tentative Schedule

Tuesday, June 3 Introduction and Experiment 1 — Measurement

Thursday, June 5 Experiments 2 & 3 — Rigid Body Equilibrium

Tuesday, June 10 Experiment 8 — Friction

Thursday, June 12 Experiment 6 — Ballistic Pendulum

Tuesday, June 17 Test

Thursday, June 19 Experiment 7 — Uniform Circular Motion, and Hand-out Experiment — Uniform Acceleration

Tuesday, June 24 Experiment 11 — Rotational Dynamics

Thursday, June 26 Experiment 9 — Simple Machines, and Experiment 13
— Archimedes' Principle

Tuesday, July 1 1401 Lecture (Attendance not required)

Thursday, July 3 Scheduled Final Test