Physics 205 - Syllabus

Meeting Times: 9:00 to 9:50 Monday through Thursday in room 131 of the Science Complex.

Instructor: Brad Halfpap

My office is room 232 of the Clapp Building.

Email  bradford.halfpap@umontana.edu

Office Hours  8:00 to 8:50 Monday through Thursday

Textbook  Physics – Giancoli (7th edition)

Homework is on Pearson’s Mastering Physics – See Signup form.

Web Site  I will use our Moodle Site to communicate course material.

Prerequisite  Facility with algebra and basic trigonometry.

Assignments  There is a detailed list of homework given on the Pearson Mastering Physics website. Our Moodle site shows a calendar with the dates I will discuss material in our text and when we will have exams. There is a document on our Moodle site that indicates the procedure for signing on with the Mastering Physics. Open it and follow the instructions. The first homework is due next Sunday evening at 11:00pm.

Laboratories  There is a companion laboratory course, Physics 206. It will not meet until the second week of the term.

Exams  There will be three exams given during the term.

Grading  Departmental policy for this course dictates that the final determination of grades will take place after the final exam has been graded. The grade distribution will be made in such a way as to maintain consistency from year to year. As a rough guide, about 50% of the class will likely receive an A or B in
the course. The weighting of the various evaluations is as follows:

Homework (on Mastering Physics) 20%
Midterm Exams (3 of these) 20%
Final Exam 20%

Unless there are extraordinary events requiring your absence from our exams and you make arrangements with me in advance, there will be no make-up exams given. There are late penalties for the homework; however, they are not severe and you should strive to do all of the assigned work.

Standard Syllabus Material

The standard university catalog notwithstanding, this course may only be taken for traditional credit or audited. The latter option is only available at the beginning of the semester. If the class goes poorly your only grading options will be to withdraw or stay with the course and receive a letter grade.

Students are expected, when selecting and registering for their courses, to make informed choices and to regard those choices as semester long commitments and obligations. After registering and through the first fifteen (15) instructional days of the semester, students may use the internet (http://cyberbear.umt.edu) to drop and add courses or change sections and credits. Fees are reassessed on the fifteenth day of the term. Added courses and credits may result in additional fees. For courses dropped by the fifteenth instructional day, no fees are charged and courses are not recorded. (For deadlines and refund policy for withdrawal from all courses, see the Withdrawal sections of this catalog.) An instructor may specify that drop/add is not allowed on the internet. A drop/add form is used to make changes in these courses, if approved by the instructor. After adding a course, the credit/no credit grading option or auditor status may be elected on the internet or on a form available at the Registration Counter in Griz Central in the Lommasson Center. These options are not allowed for some courses as identified in the Class Schedule. Change of grading option to audit is not allowed after the 15th instructional day.

Beginning the sixteenth (16) instructional day of the semester through the thirtieth (30) instructional day, students use paper forms to drop, add, and make changes of section, grading option, or credit. The drop/add form must be signed by the instructor of the course and the student's advisor. The signed drop/add form must be returned to the Registration Counter (or the Registrar's Office at the College of Technology) no later than the thirtieth instructional day. A $10.00 processing fee is charged for each drop/add form. Added courses and credits may result in additional fees. There are no refunds or reductions of fees for courses dropped and grades of W (withdrew) are recorded. Beginning the thirty first (31) instructional day of the semester through the last day of instruction before scheduled final examinations, students must petition to drop, add, and make changes of section, grading option, or credit. The petition form must be signed by the instructor of the course and the student's advisor and, in the case of drops only, by the dean of the student's major. A $10.00 processing fee is charged for each petition. Added courses and credits may result in additional fees. There are no refunds or reductions of fees for courses dropped, and the instructor assigns a grade of WP (withdrew/passing) if the student's course work has been passing or a WF (withdrew/failing) if the course work has been failing. These grades do not affect grade averages but they are recorded on students' transcripts. Documented justification is required for dropping courses by petition. Some examples of documented circumstances that may merit approval are: registration errors, accident or illness, emergency, change in work schedule, no assessment of
performance in class until after this deadline, or other circumstances beyond the student's control. The opportunity to drop a course for the current term or alter grading option for such a course ends on the last day of instruction before scheduled final exams. Dropping a course taken in a previous term or altering grading option or audit status for such a course is not allowed. The only exceptions are for students who have received a grade of NF (never attended) or new students unfamiliar with the drop process who have ceased attendance before the sixteenth day of instruction and can provide to the Registrar's Office instructor verification of non-attendance.

Class Attendance/Absence Policy

Students who are registered for a course but do not attend the first two class meetings may be required by the instructor to drop the course. This rule allows for early identification of class vacancies to permit other students to add classes. **Students not allowed to remain must complete a drop form or drop the course on the internet (http://cyberbear.umt.edu) to avoid receiving a failing grade.** Students who know they will be absent should contact the instructor in advance. Students are expected to attend all class meetings and complete all assignments for courses in which they are enrolled. Instructors may excuse brief and occasional absences for reasons of illness, injury, emergency, or participation in a University sponsored activity. (University sponsored activities include for example, field trips, ASUM service, music or drama performances, and intercollegiate athletics.) Instructors shall excuse absences for reasons of military service or mandatory public service. Instructors may establish absence policies to conform to the educational goals and requirements of their courses. Such policies will ordinarily be set out in the course syllabus. Customarily, course syllabi will describe the procedures for giving timely notice of absences, explain how work missed because of an excused absence may be made up, and stipulate any penalty to be assessed for absences.

Academic Honesty

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the university.

All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at http://www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/page/1321.