

## Course Information

- Instructor: Dr. David A. Macaluso
- Office: C.H. Clapp Building, room 119
- Telephone: (406) 243-6641
- Email: david.macaluso@umontana.edu
- Section 3: Wednesdays 11:00 – 12:50 PM, CHCB 225 (usually)
- Office Hours: Monday - Wednesday 2 – 3. I am happy to help students and answer questions outside my normally scheduled office hours and I strongly encourage students to seek my assistance whenever necessary.

## Overview

The goal of the laboratories is to both aid students in quantitative laboratory techniques and conceptual understanding of physics. The material covered will be commensurate with the lecture courses with which the experiments are paired. The quantitative laboratory techniques will include reading an array of measuring instruments, handling of error that results from the measuring instruments, understanding the distinction between precision and accuracy, and the proper display of data. It is essential that students keep up from the start as the concepts in this course build on each other.

## Learning Outcomes

The goals of this course are:

1. To learn how to properly take measurements and record data.
2. To learn how to interpret results both statistically and graphically.
3. To experimentally confirm theories presented in lecture.

## Add/Drop/Withdraw

Please refer to the University policy on adding, dropping, and withdrawing from the course at <http://www.umt.edu/registrar/students/dropadd.php>.

## Websites

Grades and other materials will be posted on Moodle.

## Laboratory

There will be 11 two-hour labs during the semester. Ten of those labs will count towards the student's final grade. The reason for offering 11 labs but only counting 10 is so students may miss one lab (e.g. unplanned absence, emergency) without consequence. Students with planned absences may attend a different laboratory section during the same week with the permission of both instructors. Students are required to attend the labs, take measurements, and keep a notebook for each lab. **There are no make-up labs.**

Students are expected to have read the instructions prior to arriving at the lab each week and have completed a short **pre-lab quiz on Moodle**. These pre-lab quizzes represent 20% of your course grade. There are a total of 10 pre-lab quizzes (*there is no pre-lab quiz for Lab #1*) and 9 of those will count, meaning you get to drop your lowest pre-lab quiz score. **You will have until 11:00 am on Tuesday to complete each pre-lab quiz.**

You will then have a post-lab quiz on each experiment. These post-lab quizzes represent 80% of your course grade. There are a total of 11 post-lab quizzes and 10 of those will count, meaning you get to drop your lowest post-lab quiz score as well. **You will have until 11:00 pm on Wednesday to have completed the Post Lab Quiz.**

## Grading Policy

This course can be taken for a traditional letter grade only (A, B, C, etc.). Credit/No Credit is not an option. Grading will be based on the traditional letter grade percentage scale. Grade breakdown:

Pre-Lab Quizzes	<b>20%</b>
Post-Lab Quizzes	<b>80%</b>

## Academic Honesty

I encourage students to work together and to seek assistance from me whenever necessary. However, work submitted in this class must be the original work of the student. In addition, the majority of your grade will be based on quizzes and exams that test your mastery of the homework problems, so doing the problems on your own will give you the best chance to succeed.

**University policy statement on 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: ([http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student\\_conduct.php](http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php)).

## Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting me. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students. "Reasonable" means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications. For more information, visit the Disability Services for Students website at <http://life.umt.edu/dss/>.