

PHYS 121 section 1 – Mechanics – Fall 2008

Location: Workman 101 **Time:** MWF 11:00-11:50 am & Recitations

Professor: Richard Sonnenfeld

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Office Hours: 3-4 pm Tues and Thurs, Workman 347

TA Office Hours: Will be posted in update

Course Homepage: www.physics.nmt.edu/~rsonnenf/phys121/phys121.html

Schedule/Topics: Syllabus and exam schedule is posted on course home page.

Required Text: Essential University Physics, (Vol. 1) (1st edition) by Richard Wolfson

Homework:

Homework consists of a reading assignment and problem solving.

Late homework is accepted by Mastering Physics at reduced credit. Written homework assignments cannot be accepted late. Despite the fact that most homework will be entered on-line and graded by the Mastering Physics software, it is highly recommended that you maintain a written homework notebook.

Homework Schedule:

Recitation: Quiz on chapter N-1, Work problems for Chapter N.

Friday (1 am): Online assignment for chapter N is due, begin working on assignment N+1.

Mastering Physics: I will be using Mastering Physics to post and grade assignments.

1) Go to <http://www.masteringphysics.com>

2) Click "New Students"

3) Use the registration ID from the book, or buy one on-line. The registration code is only useful once ... so don't share it!

4) Finish the registration process and select a userid.

5) You will be asked for a Course ID (put MPSONNENFELD2008A) and a student ID number. Use your Tech student ID number. You are now ready to go.

Class Participation:

Questions are encouraged, and can earn extra credit.

iClickers: Are a way to participate even on material that you may find difficult without the risk of looking foolish. Research shows that use of clickers helps keep attention focused and improves learning. Check out at the library (\$2 to rent, but \$30 if you lose it). Bring to every class. Every answer earns one point. Every correct answer earns two points on participation grade.

Register clickers at www.iclicker.com (use # on back of clicker).

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| Grading: | Final: | 24% | "A" is 93-100, "A-" is 90-92, "B" is 83-87 ... etc. |
| | Midterm: | 13% | |
| | Top 11 Quizzes: | 33% | |
| | Homework Problems: | 25% | |
| | Class Participation: | 10% | |

Testing: Quizzes are one or two problems given at the beginning of recitation every week. (The lowest quiz is dropped). You may bring a single 3"x5" index card to any quiz or exam.

Help: It is a great idea to form a study group. New and transfer students can send me an e-mail and I can try to get you connected. The tutoring center offers tutoring in 275 Fidel. A schedule will be announced.

Attendance: Only the participation grade is formally based on attendance. However, I have observed that students who start skipping classes do markedly worse, and are more likely to fail the course, compared to students who attend lectures regularly.