

PY 205/208 Highlights of the Syllabus for Fall 2021 and Spring 2022
(for all sections except 601 and 001H)

Textbook:

Matter and Interactions, Ruth Chabay and Bruce Sherwood, 4th edition.

Note: Do NOT purchase the textbook; e-book access is included in WebAssign. This course is NOT covered by Cengage Unlimited.

Grading:

205:

Attendance 5%

Homework 20%

3 mid-term exams 50%

Final exam 25%

208:

Attendance 5%

Homework 20%

2 mid-term exams 45%

Final exam 30%

Policies with respect to grades:

Attendance policies:

- Regular attendance in class is expected.
- Your attendance grade will be calculated after dropping the lowest 4 (TuTh or MW sections) or 6 (MWF sections) scores.
- All excused absences must be verified by the [absence verification](#) office.
- If you are ill, do not attend class. Classroom capture videos from your section will be available.

Homework policies:

- Homework (in WebAssign) will be due on Mondays and Thursdays for all sections.
- An automatic extension (up to 48 hours after a homework assignment is due) is available for any assignment with no penalty.
- For most problems, you have two submissions to answer a homework question correctly for full credit. For your third submission, a 40% penalty will be applied.
- If you have an excused absence that impacted homework, contact your instructor so that due dates can be adjusted.
- Homework will not be "curved".

Test policies:

- 90-minute mid-term exams will consist of approximately 20 multiple-choice questions. Exams are given during common hour exam times on Tuesday evenings.
- If you have an excused absence that impacts an exam, you must contact your instructor immediately. The points from the missed exam will be re-distributed to your other exams. **205:** Your mid-term score will be replaced with the average of your other two midterms. **208:** The

points associated with your missed mid-term will be distributed equally to the other mid-term and the final exam.

- The final exam will be multiple-choice and cumulative.
- A standard "practice test" consisting of additional practice problems (both multiple choice and open-ended questions) on the sections covered by each exam will be available before each test (pdf to be downloaded from the course Moodle page). These are simply extra questions to work after reviewing homework. The practice test will be longer, more challenging, cover a broader range of content, and be in a different format than the actual exam. There is only one practice test for all sections.
- Learning objectives will be provided as a downloadable pdf before each exam.
- An equation sheet will be provided as part of the exam. Other equation sheets are not allowed.
- Anti-cheating policies will be in place during mid-term exams. This may include protocols to put away your phone and other materials and assigned seating.

Course policies:

- The physics department follows university policy with respect to incomplete grades.
- Additional policies that appears in the University Syllabus Template will also be followed.

Log-ins:

- All homework is in WebAssign.
- WebAssign is expected to be the grade management system for this class: the scores in WebAssign will be used to calculate your final numerical grade. Any "scores" in other electronic systems may not be correct.
- To be marked present, you must use TopHat. The particulars of TopHat use will vary slightly in different sections. It is the student's responsibility to download/use the app correctly and to have a functioning device each day.
- Announcements and documents such as practice tests will be available on the Moodle page.
- Classroom capture videos for each section will be made available through Panopto or Moodle.
- Glowscrip will be needed to complete Vpython homework assignments.

What students need to know:

- Your class will meet in person.
- Expect your instructor to use clicker questions or other active learning techniques in class. Some sections will use TopHat to respond to clicker questions; other will use colored paper or raising of hands. Your instructor will discuss this on the first day of class.
- Your instructor will work a least one multi-step problem in class each week, on average.
- Your instructor will use the notation in the textbook and homework in class.
- Lab (PY206 or PY209) is a separate class. Please contact your TA or the lab supervisor with lab questions.