

PY 205/208 Syllabus Highlights for Fall 2024 and Spring 2025
(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 WileyPlus.

Grading:

205:

Homework + TopHat verified attendance* 25%

Lowest midterm exam score 10%

Two other midterm exam scores 20% each

Final exam 25%

208:

Homework + TopHat verified attendance* 25%

2 midterm exams 22.5% each

Final exam 30%

*Some sections will give credit for "TopHat verified attendance". See details in "class attendance policies".

"TopHat verified attendance" sections: TopHat verified attendance = 5%, homework = 20%

All other sections: homework = 25%

Class attendance and participation policies:

- Regular attendance, attention, and participation in class is expected for all students.
- **Some sections have grading schemes to encourage participation.** In these "TopHat verified attendance" sections, 5% of your grade will be calculated as discussed below.
 - **Attendance as verified by TopHat:** After the first week, each class meeting the student correctly, independently uses TopHat to respond to an attendance poll and then stays in the classroom for the remainder of the class. Full credit will be given for "attendance as verified by TopHat" for at least 80% of the course meetings. Excused absences are considered part of the 20% leniency. That means to earn full credit the student misses (through excused or unexcused absences) no more than 20% of class meetings. It is the student's responsibility to download/use the app correctly and to have a functioning device each day.
 - Students must verify during the first week of class that their TopHat attendance is recording correctly. Attendance will not be scored during the first week of the term.
 - Grading for this component of the class will be as follows:
 - **5% (full credit)** for "attendance as verified by TopHat" for at least 80% of the class meetings. Example: Missing no more than 8/39 MWF class meetings or 5/26 TuTh class meetings.
 - **Proportionally scaled** if "attendance as verified by TopHat" is less than 80%. Example: If attending 31/39 classes is 80%, then your score will be: $(\# \text{ of classes with your "attendance verified by TopHat"} / 31) * 5\%$.
- The NCSU attendance regulation (<http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-03>) states that a maximum number of excused absences can be set. This is set at 20% of the class meetings.

Homework policies:

- Homework (hosted in WileyPlus) is due 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 three submissions to answer a homework question correctly for full credit. After your third submission, a 40% penalty will be applied.
- There is a high bar to move homework deadlines in this class because of the flexible design of the homework. Homework extensions require: an excused absence **verified by the [absence verification office](#)** that **overlaps with the original deadline and lasted for longer than 48 hours**. After obtaining documentation from absence verification, pass it to the course coordinator through a Google form found on the Moodle page. Your instructor cannot extend homework.
- Under no circumstances will a homework assignment be extended past the midterm exam on which that material is covered.
- Under no circumstances will homework be extended past the last day of class.

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 an **excused** absence impacts an exam, fill out the excused exam verification form (see Moodle page) immediately. Points from the missed exam will be re-distributed to your **future** exams.
 - **205:** A missed midterm exam is considered your "lowest midterm exam score" (10% of the course grade). Missed midterm 1 is replaced by average of midterms 2 and 3; missed midterm 2 is replaced by midterm 3; missed midterm 3 is replaced by the final.
 - **208:** Missed midterm 1 is replaced by midterm 2; missed midterm 2 replaced by final.
- The NCSU attendance regulation (<http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-03>) states that a maximum number of excused absences can be set. Missing one midterm exam is the maximum number of excused test absences for this class and is scored as described above. A second missed exam results in a zero for that exam score. Unexcused absences for any test will result in a zero score for that test.
- The final exam will be multiple-choice and cumulative.
- 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. These questions may be longer, more challenging, cover a broader range of content, or be in a different format than exam questions or homework. This material is provided to 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 exams. This may include protocols to put away your phone and other materials and assigned seating.
- **208:** Exams will be electronically delivered through Moodle with Safe Exam Browser. You will bring your fully-charged laptop to the evening exam period to access the exam. If you do not own a laptop, you can [borrow one from the library](#) for up to eight hours.

Course policies:

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

Log-ins:

- All homework is in WileyPlus.
- TopHat is required for all sections. For "TopHat verified attendance" sections, TopHat scores will be part of your grade.
- Moodle is the grade management system for this class: the scores in Moodle will be used to calculate your final numerical grade.
- After each midterm exam and before the final exam, homework scores (and attendance scores for "TopHat verified attendance sections) will be posted on Moodle.
- Announcements and documents will be available on the Moodle page.
- Links to Panopto classroom capture videos for each section will be available on Moodle.

What students need to know:

- Your class will meet in person.
- Expect your instructor to use in-class student response ("clicker") questions or other active learning techniques.
 - Some sections will use TopHat to respond in-class questions; others will use colored paper or raising of hands.
- All sections will utilize TopHat to take an attendance poll (which may be location enabled) each class meeting. In "TopHat verified attendance" sections, TopHat scores are part of your grade.
- Your instructor will use the notation in the textbook and homework in class.
- Lab (PY206 or 209) is a separate class. Contact your TA or the lab supervisor with lab questions.

Topics covered:

205 will cover the following chapters and sections: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1.1-1.10• 2.1-2.6• 3.1-3.5, 3.7-3.12• 4.1-4.8, 4.10-4.11• 5.1-5.10• 6.1-6.5, 6.7-6.11• 7.1-7.6, 7.10• 8.1-8.2, 8.4• 9.1-9.2• 10.1-10.4• 11.1-11.5, 11.7-11.8• 12.1-12.6	208 will cover the following chapters and sections: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1.4-1.5, 3.7• 13.1-13.6• 14.1-14.8• 15.1-15.6• 16.1-16.7• 17.1-17.12• 18.1-18.10• 19.1-19.7• 20.1-20.5• 21.1-21.7• 22.1-22.4• 23.1-23.4, 23.6-23.10
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