SPRING 2016

INSTRUCTOR:  Dr. Walter Trikosko, Department of Physics and Astronomy  
PHONE:  468-3001  
EMAIL:  wtrikosko@sfasu.edu  
OFFICE HOURS:  9:00-10:00 a.m. and 1:30-2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday or by appointment.

LABORATORY ASSISTANT:  Clark Holcomb  
LAB MEETING TIME:  Monday 12:00-2:50 p.m.  
Room 321 Miller Science Building

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SUPPLIES  
Each student MUST bring the following supplies to every lab session.  
1. Pencil and eraser  
2. Laboratory Manual (PHY 132/242 sold in local bookstores)  
3. Calculator  
If you do not bring the required supplies for a particular lab, you will not be able to complete the lab. Don’t forget to bring the supplies!

CLASSROOM POLICIES  
Each day’s lab begins with a brief presentation by the teaching assistant (15-30 minutes). Important instructions, theory, and procedures for completing the lab exercise are given at that time. At the conclusion of the presentation students will then complete the lab exercise under the guidance of the lab assistant.  
1. Come prepared! Read over the lab exercise before coming to class (see calendar) and bring required materials.  
2. Arrive on time to avoid missing important instructions and/or possible pop quizzes!  
3. All electronic communication devices must be turned off during class.

GRADING  
RECISSION - There will be a recitation session at the beginning or end of the lab period. The recitation grade will count 10% of your lab grade for the week.

1. One quarter of your final grade for Physics 132 will come from your laboratory performance. To arrive at your laboratory performance grade your best eleven experiment grades each with a weighting factor of one, will be averaged with your lab final exam grade with a weighting factor of three.

\[
\text{Lab performance grade} = \frac{\sum (11 \text{ best experiment grades}) + 3 (\text{lab final exam grade})}{14}
\]

The final lab grade will consist of 90% of this lab performance grade and the remaining 10% will come from the recitation grade.

This grade will be combined with your lecture grade to determine your overall final grade for Physics 242. (See lecture syllabus for further information.)

2. Each experiment grade will be based on the experiment, weekly exercise and possible pop quiz. The exercise will count 20% of your grade. Pop quizzes may include questions over the present and/or most recent laboratory exercise.

3. Each lab must be completed during the lab period.

4. There will be no make-up labs.

5. Your experiment average will be drastically affected if you have more than one absences and any of them are unexcused.

6. Excused absences must be approved by Dr. Trikosko within 2 days of the absence.
7. Experiment grades and absences will be posted each day in lab. It is your responsibility to check these postings each day in order to identify errors in the previous day’s experiment grade or absence designation. You have 2 days from the day of each posting to correct any such errors.

LAB ABSENCES
We realize that occasionally there are legitimate reasons for missing a lab such as illness, family emergency and participation in certain university-sponsored events. Please read the following absence policy carefully.
1. If you will be missing lab because of an approved university-sponsored event you must inform the laboratory supervisor at least one week before the absence.
2. Students are responsible for providing timely documentation satisfactory to the laboratory supervisor for each absence. You have one week after missing a lab to bring a written excuse for an absence. If you do not bring a written excuse within one week, the absence cannot be excused.
3. Students will receive a grade of zero for each UNEXCUSED lab absence.
4. Whether an absence is excused or unexcused, a student is still responsible for all course content.

ATTENDANCE: You are expected to attend every class. If you have more than one unexcused absences, your grade will be dramatically affected. If you arrive more than 10 minutes late you will be marked as tardy and three tardy marks count as an absence.
If you become ill or have a restroom emergency during the lecture, please excuse yourself quietly. If you need to study for another class, the library is available. If you need to nap, that is best done at home – not in the classroom.

RECISSION: There will be a recitation session at the beginning or end of the lab period. The recitation grade will count 10% of your lab grade for the week.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp

ACCEPTABLE STUDENT BEHAVIOR: Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor's ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, Policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom.
Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed. http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_conduct_code.asp

WITHHELD GRADES POLICY: Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/

STUDENT COUNSELING CENTER: (936) 468-2401
Rusk Building 3rd Floor Email: counseling@sfasu.edu
The Student Counseling Center is available free of charge to students and is staffed with professional therapists to meet a variety of needs. All interactions with the Student Counseling Center are guaranteed confidential. Licensed Counselors are available from 8:00a.m.-5:00p.m. Monday-Friday. The department is closed on certain holidays, Spring Break and Winter Break when the university is closed. If you are in need of assistance after hours or on the weekend please call: University Police: (936)468-2608 or MHMR Crisis Line: (800)392-8343. If the situation is life threatening please dial 911.