Instructor Information

Instructor  Isaac Ziskin
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Office hours* M, W, Th after class, and by appointment

Course Information

Prerequisite: As noted in the front of the catalogue “All Natural Science courses require eligibility for MAT084 -- Algebra 1”. This means that you should be able to handle addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, decimals, ratios (fractions) and percents. The math content in this course is limited, but the small amount we do is important.

Textbook: Required – *Conceptual Physics 12th Edition (11th and 10th also acceptable): (and accompanying workbook) by Hewitt

Equipment: Required – a simple calculator, a couple colors of pens/pencils, protractor and metric clear ruler

Lecture: Do your reading before class. It really helps! The lecture is to supplement your studies and homework. There may be subjects which I do not lecture on but that you may be held accountable for. Come prepared to ask questions, answer questions and work on problems with neighboring students.
**Homework:** There will be one to two homework assignments per week. You should also work through the *workbook exercises* corresponding to the chapter reading even if this is not specifically announced. The workbook answers are in the back of the book. Exercises from the practice book will be recommended on the website and in class but you will usually not be required to turn them in (always check the website to be sure). I recommend you do more than what is assigned. Try as many of the questions in the textbook as you can even if they are not assigned. I can always check any problems you do from the textbook beyond the assignment during office hours if you wish. *No late homework will be accepted.*

**Quizzes:** There will be announced quizzes. We will not have a midterm or a final exam. There might also be unannounced reading quizzes, very short and easy-to-do if you did the reading.

**Labs:** There are many labs planned and they will be graded. They will reinforce and expand on text and lecture material.

**Attendance:** Attendance in lecture will not be taken. It is all too common that those who don’t come to lecture on a regular basis will not be able to do well in the course.

**Preliminary Course Content:**

Sound, Light, Broad discussion of topics in physics.

If you need to have any particular subject covered, please come see me as soon as possible.

**Grading:**

- Homework, In-Class Exercises, and Reading Quizzes: 40%. This includes weekly homework assignments, unannounced reading quizzes
- Quizzes: 30%. The lowest of your quiz scores will be dropped. This does not include quizzes that you did not take (unless you have a good reason and have informed me prior to the quiz).
- Labs: 30%
- You can do up to 5 extra credit projects that can add as much as 10% to your grade. See the Home Projects link on the website for ideas.

**Two Warnings!!!**

1. If you quit coming to class and do not formally withdraw you will be given a 0.0 for the quarter. You are responsible for your own enrollment and registration.

2. I cannot give a No Credit (NC) grade unless a student is in good standing in the course already. This means, you must have a passing grade up to that point in the course to request an NC grade.
**Tutoring:** There are two tutoring centers free of charge to all students enrolled here at SCCC.

1. There is a tutoring center on the main floor in SAM. There will be physics tutors available free of charge to all students taking a physics course. Check the schedule posted on the door for the tutors hours. This center is on a first come, first serve basis. Feel free to work on your homework in the study lounge on the fifth floor or in the tutoring center and ask for help when you get stuck.

2. There is College Wide Tutoring on the second floor of the main building straight ahead out of the central elevators. You must sign up in advance to see a tutor. You will be given a 30 minute block of time. Check the wall in the center for availability of physics tutors and sign up on the wall to get a time slot.

**Special Assistance:** If you need course adaptations because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please see me during my office hours as soon as possible. I am happy to help you in any way I possibly can.

**The purpose of this course is**

1. To learn what physics is about.

2. To become better critical and analytic thinkers.

3. To improve your problem solving skills.

4. To **have fun** – and maybe even begin to like physics and the natural environment around us.