

Phys 31: Physics for Engineers I

Summer 2020



Meeting place: (on the line)
MS Teams, Blackboard, Mastering physics

Class times: M, T, W, R 9:00-11:30

Credits: 4

Instructor: Richards “Chad” Miller
Office: 203A Innovation Hall
E-mail: rgmiller@uvm.edu
Office hours: TBD/by appointment

Pre-requisites: Math 21 or 23

Textbook: e-Text version of *Physics for Scientists and Engineers: A Strategic Approach*, Vol. 1, 4th Edition, by Randall D. Knight. Includes access to Mastering Physics and Learning Catalytics, ISBN: 9780134083148

This course requires access to the e-textbook *Physics for Scientists and Engineers: A Strategic Approach, Vol. 1*, and access to the Pearson online services Mastering Physics and Learning Catalytics. The first time you log into MasteringPhysics and enter your registration information, you should join our course: **miller16309** and follow the directions for joining this section, you will need to provide your UVM netID. The required material may be purchased either through the UVM bookstore or directly in Mastering Physics once you have created an account and joined our course.

Course Description: This course is designed to provide students of natural sciences at UVM with a strong foundation in the fundamentals of physics. In this first semester, we will cover topics including the kinematics of motion, forces, work, energy, momentum, rotational motion, harmonic motion, and waves. While many students may have seen these topics in previous physics courses, successful completion of PHYS 031 should provide the level of understanding and communication required to teach the topics to others. There will be four classroom meetings per week on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (times listed above). This is a laboratory science class and lab activities are integrated into the daily activities, **Safety is a priority. During any class activity, negligent or deliberate misuses of the equipment will not be tolerated and may result in an F for the assignment or the entire course.**

Active Learning classroom: This course will rely on a flipped-classroom model where **students are required to read the assigned text before class, and complete scheduled reading quizzes as we move into each new chapter.** You will be required to complete online reading quizzes on Mastering Physics, which are due before we begin covering content from each chapter in class. Nearly all of your class time will be spent in small-group activities, including demonstrations, problem solving, tutorials, labs, and exploring conceptual details. **You will be graded for all in-class activities.** In-class activities will typically be graded based on an 80% participation and 20% correct answer weighting, or 100% participation for questions where all answers would be considered correct. Attendance is therefore very important, but illnesses and unexpected events often lead to absences. Three days of missed class activity will therefore be excused, but additional absences cannot be made up. Because the course is centered on small-group activities, you are expected to prepare for each day's activities in advance and to attend and

actively participate on a daily basis. **Be aware that this class will require significant time commitment outside the classroom.**

Laptop/tablet required: Seeing as this course is an online class it will require a laptop or tablet with wifi and bluetooth capability, and preferably a USB port. You will be required to log into Mastering Physics and Learning Catalytics during class times. You will also need to access the wifi, bluetooth, and/or USB enabled laboratory equipment.

For this course you will need a customized kit that includes the materials required to complete the hands-on portion of PHYS 31. A custom website makes it easy for you to order the kit. Once ordered, the kit will be shipped directly to you.

Online ordering: <https://www.carolina.com/catalog/detail.jsp?prodId=582590>

All students must have reliable access to the University of Vermont Blackboard course website. (bb.uvm.edu) This access requires internet connection, which is free of charge for all UVM students while on campus. You will need your UVM net ID and password to log into the Blackboard system. All supplementary course materials, course updates and announcements will be made via the Blackboard system. **It is the student's responsibility to check UVM email and Blackboard course website for updates at least once a day!** The assignments are all mapped out in the mastering physics page. Make sure you are aware of the coming assignments as there is no regular schedule to most assignments.

Homework: There are currently 14 homeworks assigned in 6 weeks of class. Ergo, they will come fast and often, falling behind on homework in an accelerated class makes catching up nearly impossible. No homework grade will be dropped when averaging. There is however an extra homework assignment on the last day of the summer semester that can be used as an extra credit assignment. A follow-up assignment will be granted to allow opportunities to make up missed points, due a few days after the original assignment and only available if the original score was below 90% of the total. Homework assignments will be completed on Mastering Physics, but it is strongly advised that each student keep organized detailed solutions. Preparing these solutions will help in studying for the exam and for working in groups on the homework.

Exams: There will be 4 exams this semester, including a final. All will be assigned a class day to complete them. The exact format of the exams may range from an online exam (timed) to a take home PDF to be scanned and handed in. The Final will be cumulative, and each exam will expect you to retain the information discussed in the entire class. Of the three midterm exams, the lowest one will be dropped from your class grade. Each exam will have a reading/review or make-up day prior to the test. This is built in for students to have an extra chance to clarify anything they wish to have. However, should we fall behind in class activities, or lectures this day will be used to get us back on schedule.

Course Grades: Each student will receive a total grade based on the grades of the exams, homework, in-class labs and activities, and reading preparation. The individual components will be scaled and converted to letter grades according to:

Midterm exams (3)	20% (drop lowest)	A = 90 – 100%
Final	20%	B = 80 – 89%
Homework	15%	C = 70 – 79%
Reading quizzes	10%	D = 60 – 69%
In-class activities	35%	F = \leq 59%

Within each letter grade, the + and - will indicate above and below the corresponding 7% and 3% marks. All grades will be posted on Blackboard to ensure privacy. It is each student's responsibility to verify the accuracy of the postings regularly. **Report any discrepancies promptly.**

Academic Dishonesty Disclosure: Academic dishonesty **will not be tolerated**. Perceived failures to abide by the standards of academic integrity will be prosecuted as set forth in the University of Vermont Code of Academic Integrity. The code states the four standards of academic integrity: that students may not plagiarize, fabricate, collude, or cheat. Note that there is a great but subtle difference between collusion and collaboration. Collaboration is one of the greatest tools for learning and creativity in science, and is highly encouraged on homework assignments. This will help you to expand your perspective and your arsenal of problem solving techniques. Exams, however, will be a purely individual effort.

Disability Services: In keeping with University policy, any student with a documented disability interested in utilizing accommodations should contact ACCESS, the office of Disability Services on campus. ACCESS works with students and faculty in an interactive process to explore reasonable and appropriate accommodations, which are communicated to faculty in an accommodation letter. All students are strongly encouraged to meet with their faculty to discuss the accommodations they plan to use in each course. A student's accommodation letter lists those accommodations that will not be implemented until the student meets with their faculty to create a plan. Due to the format of the exams, if extra time is needed you are strongly encouraged to discuss your options with the course instructor as soon as possible. Contact ACCESS: A170 Living/Learning Center; 802-656-7753; access@uvm.edu; or www.uvm.edu/access.