PHYSICS 110 (Section 1200 // Course Number 2267)

Elizabeth "Liz" Meador

Summer Semester, 2026

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Office Hours: M/W 11-12 pm
Office: 319 Allen Hall

Class Hours: M/W 1:30-2:55 PM and T/Th 1:30-3:45 PM
Class Room: Thaw 104

Recitation Room: 11 Thaw/105 Allen

Recitation Times: M/W 3-3:50 PM

Course Description

This is the first term of a two-term, algebra-based sequence in introductory physics. This course is primarily designed for students who are non-physics majors. Throughout the semester I will provide you with basic physics skills that can support you in understanding mechanics, energy, waves, heat, and fluids. We will also build knowledge with common physics concepts like dynamical forces, energy, momentum.

Required Materials

- Textbook: OpenStax Textbook Link Here
- Homework: Achieve (This has a cost of around $30) and a 7-day free trial Achieve by Macmillan Learning
- Other: Scientific Calculator

Summary of Course Structure

This course is the same amount of hours as one offered in the Fall or Spring, the difference is that it is offered over a much smaller span of time. We will have class 4X a week, I will do my best to make it fun and informative though. Monday and Wednesday will be from 1:30-2:55 PM and primarily lecture base days. Following these shorter lectures you will attend recitation and that will enforce your understanding of the material. You are required to attend recitation (max 2 drops). Monday recitation there will be a mandatory assignment for you to complete as well as a review, and Wednesday your recitation instructor will be available if you would like to

review material for the quiz or to ask homework questions. Homework will be assigned weekly, every Thursday after class. Tuesday and Thursdays will be longer lecture days from 1:30-3:45 PM. Thursdays will also be our weekly quiz. Instead of bombarding you with exams three times over the semester with a heavy weight, I will be giving you a quiz at the end of the week that covers the previous week's material where you will be able to drop at least 1 of these quizzes. **There will be no cumulative final.**

Course Structure Laid Out

Lecture

Below is the list of topics to be covered every week. This will typically be covered in 2-3 classes.The Learning Objectives for this course are outlined on the department web-page. Before the first class in each topic, you will be expected to have read the relevant chapter sections in your textbook. During class I will provide you with an overview of the material with conceptual questions throughout lecture. There may be moments in our lecture where I pause and ask you to try a practice problem with your nearby neighbor. This way you will be able to think about the material and discuss it with your peers. At the end of a topic in class I may present in class example problems related to the topic and I may ask you to work in groups on problem solving exercises.

Week 1 - Dimensions/Units, Vectors, and Kinematics (Chapters 1 - 3)
Week 2 - Forces and Uniform Circular Motion (Chapters 4 - 6)
Week 3 - Work/Energy and Momentum (Chapters 7 - 8)
Week 4 - Rotational Motion, Torque, and Simple Harmonic Motion (Chapters 9 - 10, 16)
Week 5 - Fluids and Heat (Chapters 12 - 13)
Week 6 - Mechanical Waves (Chapters 14 - 15)
Week 7 - Wrap Up, Review, and Quiz on Previous Week

Recitations

Week 1 Monday Recitation: Dimensions and Units
Week 2 Monday Recitation: Vectors and Kinematics
Week 3 Monday Recitation: Forces
Week 4 Monday Recitation: Energy and Momentum
Week 5 Monday Recitation: Rotational Motion, Torque, and Simple Harmonics
Week 6 Monday Recitation: Fluids and Heat
Week 7 Monday Recitation: Mechanical Waves

Quizzes

The quiz topics will follow the weekly covered topics in recitation, and will always be on Thursdays after lecture. I will remind you of these!

Week 2: Quiz 1 on Dimensions, Units, Vectors, and 1-D kinematics
Week 3: Quiz 2 on Forces
Week 4: Quiz 3 on Energy and Momentum
Week 5: Quiz 4 on Rotational Motion, Torque, Simple Harmonics

Week 6: Quiz 5 on Fluids and Heat
Week 7: Quiz 6 on Mechanical Waves

Homework

Homework is assigned every Thursday after class, and you will have until the following Thursday at the start of class to complete this on Achieve! If you have questions utilize your TA recitation instructors time too, they are here to help!

Grading Breakdown

Percentage Minimum	Grade
90%	A-
80%	B-
70%	C
65%	C-
55%	D-
$< 55\%$	F

Table 1: Course Grading Scale

- 10% Participation
- 40% Homework
- 50% Quizzes (Lowest score will be dropped)

Course Policies

During Class

I understand that the electronic recording of notes will be important for class and so computers will be allowed in class. Please refrain from using computers for anything but activities related to the class. Phones are prohibited as they are rarely useful for anything in the course. Eating and drinking are allowed in class but please refrain from it affecting the course. Do not to eat your lunch in class but a snack is fine. For shorter classes I will be having us take a short 5 min human needs break, for the longer classes on T/Th a 10 min break!

Attendance Policy

Attendance is expected in all lecture and at minimum Monday recitation sections, Wednesdays are at your discretion. In extenuating circumstances, valid excuses with proof will be accepted after class. Makeup exams and recitations will primarily not be allowed, unfortunately the class itself is incredibly short.

Policies on Incomplete Grades and Late Assignments

If an extended deadline is not authorized by the instructor or department, an unfinished incomplete grade will automatically change to an F after either (a) the end of the next regular semester in which the student is enrolled (not including summer sessions), or (b) the end of 12 months if the student is not enrolled, whichever is shorter. Incompletes that change to F will count as an attempted course on transcripts. The burden of fulfilling an incomplete grade is the responsibility of the student. The university policy on incomplete grades is located at http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-50-3.

Late assignments will be accepted for no penalty if a valid excuse is communicated to the instructor before the deadline. After the deadline, assignments will be accepted for a 50% deduction to the score up to 2 days after the deadline. After this any assignments handed in will be given 0.

Academic Integrity and Honesty

Students are required to comply with the university policy on academic integrity found in the Code of Student Conduct found at https://www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/conduct/code-conduct. Don't cheat. You will fail an exam immediately if you are caught cheating. If you are disrepectful to any of your instructors you will be asked to leave the class that day. See https://www.provost.pitt.edu/academic-integrity-guidelines for a detailed explanation of academic honesty.

Accommodations for Disabilities

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Office of Disability Resources and Services (DRS), 216 William Pitt Union, (412) 648-7890 (https://www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/drs/about/), as early as possible in the term, DRS will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

Likely, if you need additional time I will simply provide you with that and notes from class or any slides that get used can be provided to you on Canvas

The university does not tolerate any form of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation based on disability, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, genetic information, marital status, familial status, sex, age, sexual orientation, veteran status or gender identity or other factors as stated in the University's Title IX policy. The University is committed to taking prompt action to end a hostile environment that interferes with the University's mission.

For more information about policies, procedures, and practices, see the Office for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. I ask that everyone in the class strive to help ensure that other members of this class can learn in a supportive and respectful environment. If there are instances of the aforementioned issues, please contact the Title IX Coordinator, by calling 412-648-7860, or e-mailing titleixcoordinator@pitt.edu. Reports can also be filed on the Title IX Webpage. You may also choose to report this to a faculty/staff member; they are required to communicate this to the University's Office of Diversity and Inclusion. If you wish to maintain complete confidentiality, you may also contact the University Counseling Center (412-648-7930).

I will also add personally, that I am happy to advocate on your behalf if you are experiencing any form of discrimination!

Schedule and weekly learning goals

The schedule is tentative and subject to change. The learning goals below should be viewed as the key concepts you should grasp after each week, and also as a study guide before each exam, and at the end of the semester. Each exam will test on the material that was taught up until 1 week prior to the exam (i.e. vorticity will not be tested until exam 2). The applications in the second half of the semester tend to build on the concepts in the first half of the semester though, so it is still important to at least review those concepts throughout the semester.