

Physics & Astronomy Department policy for PHYS2100 Lab procedures and grades

Physics 2100 Lab sections will conduct review sessions during Weeks 1, 2, and 3 of the semester. Every section will be devoted to a review of math (trigonometry, vectors, derivatives) and the kinematic equations of motion. There may be some differences in the details of the review problems depending on the instructors.

The format of these sessions is as follows: after a mini-lecture on the day's topics, students will work in groups to solve problems slowly, one at a time. The instructor will circulate among the groups posing questions to facilitate a solution. A solution will be discussed for each problem.

In order that these review sessions are beneficial students should be actively engaged in problem solving with their groups. Active participation within the group activities during the review and during the experiments will be included in the performance component of the grade.

There will be a 10-15 minute break half-way through the period. Use this break time rather than walking in and out throughout the class time. Attendance and participation are part of the Laboratory grade; every absence will be noted. One excused absence is allowed in the Lab. When calculating the average for the lab reports the lowest lab grade will be dropped. Therefore one missed lab is not counted against a student's grade, however, a second missed lab counts as zero. Three or more missed lab classes will result in the student automatically failing the entire course and will be reported on the grade sheet at the end of the semester as well.

The lab grade will be based on the reports and performance. The reports will be about 80% of the lab grade and the performance, as judged by the instructor and graduate assistant, will be 20% of the final lab grade.