



Portland State University
Department of Physics
Physics 201 – General Physics
Mechanics

SYLLABUS – Fall 2006

Instructor: Bjoern Seipel
Contact: Phone :  503-725-4226 
Email : bseipel@pdx.edu (preferred way of contact)
Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday from 11.30-12.30 at SB2 314
Text book: **Giambattista Richardson Richardson - College Physics 2nd edition & ARIS (online course management system)**
Full Text (for PH 201,202,203) ISBN 0073222747
or Volume I ISBN 0073256412 (for PH201 only) & ARIS
Volume II ISBN 0073256420 (both volumes needed for PH202 and PH203) &

ARIS

Web: <http://www.physics.pdx.edu/~bseipel/>
Class: **Tuesday and Thursday, 4.40pm-6.30pm**

The course covers the basic concepts of mechanics. **We will cover most of the first 12 chapters of the textbook**

Homework

The homework is meant to help the students apply the concepts from the lecture and to review the covered theory. Homework problems will be assigned but will not be graded. Solutions to the homework problems will be posted on the webpage <http://www.physics.pdx.edu/~bseipel/teaching>. The homework should help the students to prepare for the exams. Some of the homework problems might also appear in a slightly changed form in the exams.

Quizzes

Besides the homework additional quizzes will be given occasionally. These quizzes can consist of both conceptual questions and problems and will be graded. The quizzes count as extra credit and will be added on the final course grade.

Exams

The course grade is based on three exams. **The best exam of each student is worth 40%, and the two other are worth 35% (2nd best) and 25% of the total grade.** The exams can have both conceptual questions and problems. The exams are **non-comprehensive**, but exam 2 and 3 **may include** general concepts already covered in previous exam.

Exam1
Exam2
Exam3

Make-up exams will be only given in case of emergencies or

illness (with proof).

One piece of paper is allowed with anything you want to write on it. Both sides.
Format: Letter 8.5" x 11"

Calculator is required!!

Grading Scale

$\geq 90\%$ A, 80%-89% B, 70%-79% C, 60%-69% D, $< 59\%$ F

Lowest in the range will be a MINUS, highest will be a PLUS
(E.g. 90% = A- and 89% = B+)

For a low scoring exam a curve might be applied