

**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**PHY118, SECTION 01**  
**PHYSICS LABORATORY**  
**3 CREDIT HOURS**  
Summer 2008

**1. LOCATION OF CLASS MEETING**

Room 205 of the Farrington Building

**2. CLASS MEETING TIMES**

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday at time indicated by the schedule.

**3. INSTRUCTOR**

The supervisor for this class is Dr. Charles R. Meitzler. A variety of individual lab instructors will be introduced on the first day of class.

**4. OFFICE LOCATION**

313 Farrington Bldg.

**5. INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION**

The instructor may be contacted in one of several ways:

- 1) Phone 936.294.1601
- 2) E-mail: [crmeitzler@shsu.edu](mailto:crmeitzler@shsu.edu)

**6. OFFICE HOURS**

Office hours for this course are at the following times:

Monday	13 <sup>00</sup> –13 <sup>55</sup>
Tuesday	13 <sup>00</sup> –13 <sup>55</sup>
Wednesday	13 <sup>00</sup> –13 <sup>55</sup>
Thursday	13 <sup>00</sup> –13 <sup>55</sup>
Friday	13 <sup>00</sup> –13 <sup>55</sup>

**As per University policy, other times are available by appointment only.** These office hours are subject to change and revision without prior notification during the semester for a variety of university-related functions or instructor illness.

## 7. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is the follow-on to PHY138.

Student performance will be assessed via quizzes, lab reports and a final exam.

Students are encouraged to ask questions during class. Furthermore, you are encouraged to ask questions about any physical phenomena you observe in daily life or have read about in the newspaper.

## 8. COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objective of this course is to round out your knowledge of physics. You will need to learn the basic concepts. Ideally, you should be able to apply your knowledge to an assortment of practical problems presented in the laboratory exercises.

## 9. REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

This course uses most recent version of the laboratory manual. The current version is good only for the Summer 2008 sessions.

**Students are required to acquire a copy of the textbook prior to the third class meeting.**

## 10. REQUIRED SUPPLIES

The following supplies are required for this course:

- 1) Writing instrument
- 2) Scientific calculator with the following higher-order functions: sine, cosine, square root, exponentiation, scientific notation.
- 3) Notebook or ring binder with appropriate paper
- 4) Textbook

## 11. OPTIONAL TEXTS, REFERENCES, AND SUPPLIES

No optional texts, references or supplies are required for this course.

## 12. ATTENDANCE POLICY

As per University policy, attendance will be taken on a regular, periodic basis. Attendance is not used to calculate your final grade for the course. Attendance at scheduled exams and quizzes is mandatory.

## 13. LAB REPORTS

Lab reports are required for each laboratory exercise. They are to be presented in the form specified in the laboratory manual.

**Late reports will not be accepted.**

## 14. QUIZ GRADES

Quiz grades will be provided on “Blackboard” as a courtesy only – the official grades are maintained off-line. Your final grade will be calculated off-line using the following formula:

$$\text{Quiz} = \frac{\text{Your total quiz points}}{\text{Total available quiz points}} \times 100.$$

## 15. EXAMS

There will be a single final exam for this course. The final exam will be held During the last scheduled laboratory period. The exam will consist of a mixture of conceptual questions and numerical problems. The following additional rules conditions apply:

- 1) **Attendance at exams is mandatory.** Failure to attend will result in the grade of zero.
- 2) Midterm grades will be provided on “Blackboard” as a courtesy only – the official grades are maintained off-line.
- 3) **Exam dates will not be changed due to conflicts with other courses.** Failure to attend will result in a grade of zero being given to the student.
- 4) **Make-up exams** will not be given without a valid medical excuse signed by a licensed physician or the student is in compliance with the Religious Holy Days policy given below.

## 16. GRADING PLAN

The official grades and calculations are maintained off-line. Only the official grades are used to calculate the final course grade.

The average course grade is calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Avg} = (0.6 * L + 0.3 * Q + 0.1 * F).$$

where  $L$  is the lab report average,  $Q$  is the quiz average, and  $F$  is the grade of the final exam. After obtaining the average, letter grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

A	$90 \leq \text{Avg} \leq 100$
B	$80 \leq \text{Avg} < 90$
C	$70 \leq \text{Avg} < 80$
D	$60 \leq \text{Avg} < 70$

F	Avg < 60
---	----------

**Be aware: an average of 79.999999999999999999 is a “C.”**

## **University mandated parts of syllabi:**

**Student Syllabus Guidelines:** You may find online a more detailed description of the following policies. These guidelines will also provide you with a link to the specific university policy or procedure:

<http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

**Academic Dishonesty:** Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. *See Student Syllabus Guidelines.*

**Classroom Rules of Conduct:** Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Students are to treat faculty and students with respect. Students are to turn off all cell phones while in the classroom. Under no circumstances are cell phones or any electronic devices to be used or seen during times of examination. Students may tape record lectures provided they do not disturb other students in the process.

**Student Absences on Religious Holy Days:** Students are allowed to miss class and other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Students remain responsible for all work. *See Student Syllabus Guidelines.*

**Students with Disabilities Policy:** It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. *See Student Syllabus Guidelines.*

**Visitors in the Classroom:** Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.