

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: PHYS 1 Title: INTRO PBLM SOLVING
Full Title: Introduction to Physics Problem Solving
Last Reviewed: 2/25/2019

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable
Grading: Grade or P/NP
Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP
Also Listed As:
Formerly:

Catalog Description:
An introduction to basic concepts in physics with an emphasis on the development of problem solving skills. This course helps prepare students for success in Physics 20 or Physics 40.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:
Course Completion of MATH 154; OR Course Completion of MATH 155 or higher.

Recommended Preparation:

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:
Description: An introduction to basic concepts in physics with an emphasis on the development of problem solving skills. This course helps prepare students for success in Physics 20 or Physics 40. (Grade or P/NP)
Prerequisites/Corequisites: Course Completion of MATH 154; OR Course Completion of MATH 155 or higher.
Recommended:
Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

AS Degree:	Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	B	Communication and Analytical Thinking	Fall 1994	
CSU GE:	MC	Math Competency	Fall 1981	Fall 2009
	Transfer Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	B1	Physical Science	Fall 1996	
IGETC:	Transfer Area		Effective:	Inactive:
CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1994	Inactive:
UC Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1994	Inactive:

CID:

Certificate/Major Applicable:

Major Applicable Course

COURSE CONTENT

Outcomes and Objectives:

1. Define the physics quantities used in mechanics including: displacement, velocity, acceleration, force, energy, work, power, momentum, and impulse.
2. Identify the major unit systems and convert between them.
3. Organize and interpret written problem statements.
4. Describe basic concepts in mechanics and selected additional physics topics.
5. Generate and/or interpret graphs of physics quantities related to mechanics.
6. Generate free body diagrams and use them in the correct application of Newton's Laws.
7. Apply the equations of mechanics to the solution of selected simple physics problems.
8. Apply interpersonal skills to work in teams to solve physics problems.

Topics and Scope:

1. Problem solving tools, strategies, and algorithms
 - A. Interpretation of written problem statements
 - B. Written description or analysis of applicable physics concepts
 - C. Choice of appropriate mathematical models and equations
 - D. Organization of information and assignment of variables
 - E. Interpretation and generation of diagrams and graphs
2. Units and dimensional analysis
 - A. The international system (SI)
 - B. The centimeter, gram, second system (CGS)
 - C. The British engineering system (BE)
 - D. Common metric prefixes
 - E. Conversion of units
 - F. Unit consistency in equations
3. One dimensional kinematics

- A. Concepts, definitions, and units of displacement, velocity and acceleration
- B. Graphs of displacement, velocity and acceleration versus time
- C. Slopes of displacement and velocity versus time graphs and areas under velocity and acceleration versus time graphs
- D. Equations for uniformly accelerated motion in one dimension
- E. Freefall body problem analysis
- 4. Vectors and trigonometry
 - A. Scalar and vector quantities
 - B. Components of vectors and right triangle trigonometry
 - C. Sums of vectors
- 5. Two dimensional kinematics
 - A. Separation of coordinate directions
 - B. Equations of two dimensional kinematics
 - C. Projectile motion
- 6. Forces and Newton's laws of motion
 - A. Concepts, definitions, and units of mass, force and weight
 - B. Newton's third law and force interactions between objects
 - C. Newton's first law and the construction of free body diagrams
 - D. One and two dimensional statics
 - E. Newton's second law and free body diagrams with acceleration
 - F. One and two dimensional linear dynamics
- 7. Work, energy, and power
 - A. Concepts, definitions, and units of work, energy, and power
 - B. Calculation of work done using force and displacement data and graphs
 - C. Kinetic and potential energy
 - D. Conservative and non-conservative forces
 - E. Conservation of energy
 - F. Computation of power

Optional Physics Topics:

Faculty should choose 2-6 additional topics of interest to broaden exposure and encourage further investigations, such as:

- 8. Impulse and momentum
- 9. Newton's universal law of gravity
- 10. Rotational kinematics and dynamics
- 11. Simple harmonic motion
- 12. Fluids, statics and dynamics
- 13. Temperature, heat, thermodynamics
- 14. Waves and sound
- 15. Electricity and magnetism
- 16. Optics
- 17. Superconductivity
- 18. Radioactivity
- 19. Fusion and Fission
- 20. Special relativity
- 21. Subatomic particles

Assignment:

- 1. Homework assignments (12-20)
- 2. Exams (2-4)
- 3. Class participation

4. Final exam

Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

Writing: Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

None, This is a degree applicable course but assessment tools based on writing are not included because problem solving assessments are more appropriate for this course.

Writing
0 - 0%

Problem Solving: Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

Homework problems, including short written components

Problem solving
15 - 30%

Skill Demonstrations: All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations
0 - 0%

Exams: All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Multiple choice, short answer, problem solving

Exams
50 - 80%

Other: Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Class participation

Other Category
0 - 20%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:

Essentials of College Physics. Serway, Raymond and Vuille, Chris. Thompson. 2007 (Classic)
Physics. 10th ed. Cutnell, John and Johnson, Kenneth. Wiley. 2015
Instructor prepared materials