



Purdue West Lafayette/Indianapolis
Department of Physics and Astronomy
Gen Physics
PHYS (WL) 22100
WL Fall 2026

Course Information

Mon/Wed at PHYS 112 (refer to registration for your section times).

Instructor(s) Contact Information

Name: Shengwang Du

Email: dusw@purdue.edu

Office Phone Number: 7654943483

Student Consultation Hours

Monday 1:30PM – 2:30PM or By appointment

Additional Information

Lecturer for the 12:30 PM section

Name: Qi Zhou

Email: zhou753@purdue.edu

Office Phone Number: (765) 494-5570

Student Consultation Hours

Wednesday 1:30-2:30PM or by appointment

Additional Information

Course Coordinator

Name: Laura Urba

Email: lurba@purdue.edu

Office Phone Number: 7654943000

Student Consultation Hours

Monday 1:00-2:00 PM or by appointment

Additional Information

Lecturer for the 11:30am section

Course Description

Credit Hours: 4.00. Electricity, light, and modern physics, for students not specializing in physics. CTL:IPS 1752 Algebra-based Physics II

Prerequisites: Undergraduate level, PHYS 22000, Minimum Grade of D- or Undergraduate level, PHYS 17200, Minimum Grade of D- or Undergraduate level, PHYS 20100, Minimum Grade of D- or Undergraduate level, PHYS P2010, Minimum Grade of D- or Undergraduate level, PHYS 21800, Minimum Grade of D- or Undergraduate level, PHYS 15200, Minimum Grade of D- or (Undergraduate level, PHYS 16200, Minimum Grade of D- and Undergraduate level, PHYS 16300, Minimum Grade of D-)

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, you will be able to:

How to Succeed in this Course

Getting Help

Here are some ways to get a better grade:

- A. Go to the Physics Help Center, Room 290 in the physics building. It is staffed during regular hours all day long by Teaching Assistants who are trained in this material.
- B. Ask your instructor during lab, recitation, or lecture.
- C. See the instructor or TA's during office hours. We are happy to work through physics problems with you.
- D. Use the buddy system: study with a friend in class. You are encouraged to work on homework together – discussing ideas and concepts reinforces the material for everyone involved in the conversation. Just be sure that what you turn in is your own work that you fully understand.

Course Office

The place to go for organizational information on the course is the Physics Undergraduate office in PHYS 144 (telephone 494-2970).

Learning Resources, Technology & Texts

College Physics

Authors: Etkina, Gentile, and van Heuvelen

Etkina, Gentile, and van Heuvelen: *College Physics* with modified MasteringPhysics® Access Code, 2nd Ed., (Pearson). We will cover material from Chapters 17-25, 27-29.

This course will use MasteringPhysics for Homework. In the Brightspace course website, under Content/Mastering Physics section on the left, you will find instructions on how to register, and the link to the MasteringPhysics® website. Please use your Purdue email for your Pearson account unless you already have an account.

The access code for MasteringPhysics is valid for any course on MasteringPhysics that uses the same edition of the book (College Physics by Etkina, 2nd Edition).

For registration or technical issues with MasteringPhysics, please follow up with Pearson customer service.

Brightspace learning management system (LMS)

Access the course via Purdue's Brightspace learning management system. It is strongly suggested that you explore and become familiar not only with the site navigation, but also with the content and resources available for this course. See the Student Services widget in Brightspace for Technology Resources, Academic Resources, Campus Resources, and Health and Well-Being Resources.

Assignments

The final grade will be determined by Homework, Lecture Participation, Recitation Participation, Lab, Midterms, and Final exam.

In-class iClicker questions: For real-time feedback we will be using iClicker Cloud response system during lectures. The questions will be typically multiple choice and related to currently covered material. Points are awarded based on participation in the polls and performance. A student can get up to 10 points per lecture: 8 points are awarded if they answer at least 50 % of the polls, and up to 2 points are awarded if they answer all polls correctly. **Find information on how to set-up your iClicker Cloud account for the course on Brightspace under START HERE.**

Laboratory, Recitations and Help Center

All labs are done on campus in room PHYS 150. For detailed lab information,

please refer to the separate lab syllabus on Brightspace in the Content/Course Content/Week/Lab section.

In-person recitations are on Fridays. Schedule and materials can be found on Brightspace in the Content/Course Content/Week/Recitation section.

Detailed schedules of Help Center hours can be found in the Content/Help Center Schedule section on Brightspace.

Homework Assignments

Homework is usually uploaded by the end of day, Monday every week and is **due by 10:59AM on Monday** of the subsequent week. **(Note that the due time is in the morning!)**

The modified MasteringPhysics® from Pearson will be used to assign credit for homework completed this semester. General instructions can be found on Brightspace in the Content/Mastering Physics section.

Please read the rules carefully before you begin your homework and for each question. The homework assignment for each week typically consists of about 10 problems. Using the MasteringPhysics® web-based system, you can enter answers to homework problems by using your own personal Pearson account. Detailed grading policies on the assignments can be viewed in the MasteringPhysics window for each assignment.

Late Homework Policy: Unless a valid excuse is provided, homework submitted one day late will receive a 25% deduction, two days late a 50% deduction, three days late a 75% deduction, and four or more days late will receive no credit.

Grading Scale

Per the Purdue University Academic Regulations, the following grades shall be available to be assigned by the instructors and reported when they are called for by the registrar:

A+

A: Highest passing grade.

A-

B+

B

B-

C+

C

C-

D+

D

D-: Lowest passing grade; marginally passing minimal objectives of the course.

E: Conditional failure; failure to achieve minimum objectives, but only to such limited extent that credit can be obtained by examination or otherwise without repeating the entire course. This grade represents failure in the course unless and until the record is duly changed within one semester. It cannot be improved to a grade higher than D. (See section E.) When an instructor reports a grade of E, they shall file in the departmental office a statement of what is required of the student to receive the passing grade.

F: Failure; failure to achieve minimal objectives of the course.

The student must repeat the course satisfactorily in order to establish credit in it.

Grades and Grade Reports

Homework: 20%

Lecture Participation: 5%

Recitation Participation: 3%

Lab: 22%

Midterm 1: 15%

Midterm 2: 15%

Final exam: 20%

We will use an absolute scale to set the grades as given in the table below. *At the end of the semester, if the grades are lower than we think is fair then we may lower the grade thresholds, but we will not raise the thresholds.* (This means if you get at least 89%, you are guaranteed to get an A- or better.)

Grades	Percentage
A+	95%
A	92%
A-	89%
B+	85%
B	82%
B-	79%
C+	75%
C	72%
C-	69%
D+	65%
D	62%
D-	59%
F	<59%

Please check your scores at any time. It is your responsibility to ensure that the grades are accurate. *Report any errors to your recitation instructor and the professor within 2 weeks from when the grades are recorded.*

Extension of Deadlines and Exempt Grades

- *For a homework extension*, email your instructor providing ODOS notice or official document from Purdue within 48 hrs. of the missed homework. Do not email doctor notes! *Homework extensions requested after 48 hours from the deadline will not be considered.*
- *For a lab/recitation excuse*, email the corresponding TA providing ODOS notice or official document from Purdue *within 48 hours* of the

missed lab/recitation. Do not email doctor notes! *Exemptions requested after 48 hours of the missed lab/recitation will not be considered.* The two lowest recitation scores will be dropped and will not be included in the final grade calculation. Please refer to the Lab Syllabus for details about lab grading.

- *For Lecture iClicker polls:* The six lowest scores won't be considered in final grade calculation.

The following is a few examples of valid reasons:

- In case of illness, emergencies, or grief contact the ODOS. The ODOS will verify these and send us an email.

In case of required attendance at an official Purdue activity, notify your TA and instructors via email at least a week in advance of the event, including documentation.

Attendance Policy

There is no attendance policy for lectures. Please refer to the Lab Syllabus for the lab attendance policy.

Course Schedule

Lectures: Mon/Wed at PHYS 112 (refer to registration for your section times).

- Lecture slides from each section will be posted on Brightspace in the Content/Course Content/Week*/Learning Materials section.
- Recorded lecture by BoilerCast will be available on Brightspace in the Course Tools/Kaltura Media Gallerysection

Midterm 1 (Electricity): Mon. 09/28, 08:00p - 09:00p, MATH 175 & WTHR 104

Midterm 2 (Magnetism and geometric optics): Wed. 11/11 08:00p - 09:00p, WALC 1055

Final (cumulative, covering all topics)

The final exam schedule can be found in the following link:

<https://roomschedule.mypurdue.purdue.edu/Timetabling/exams.do>

All exams are:

1. In-person and closed-book.
2. Important formula and physical constants will be provided.
3. Scientific or graphic calculators are allowed. Any device with capabilities to access the internet or other devices is not allowed.

MAKE-UP EXAMS: Make-up exams for midterms can be requested for the following reasons: documented schedule conflicts, religious observances, documented attendance to Purdue sponsored event, grief confirmed by ODOS, illness confirmed by ODOS. Please, contact the course instructor in advance, if possible. If you are sick on the day of an exam, contact your instructor and the ODOS within 24 hrs. of the missed exam. The ODOS will send us an email confirming the illness.

Course Logistics

For questions regarding lectures and lecture materials:

- Prof. Zhou, Prof. Du, or Lect. Urba

For questions relating to the lab:

- Lucia Nelson Office: PHYS 144 Email: lucian@purdue.edu

For questions about homework, lab assignments or recitations:

- your TAs. TA information on Brightspace: Content/Meet your TAs section.
- If your TAs can't solve the problem, contact your instructors.

For registration or other issues with MasteringPhysics:

- Pearson Technical Support

For Brightspace related issues:

- Mr. David Huckleberry Office: PHYS 176 E-Mail: dhuckleb@purdue.edu

Academic Integrity

The emphasis of this course is on learning basic physics materials and critical problem-solving skills that will be beneficial regardless of your future career choices, not on competing to see who scores highest on the assignments.

Dishonesty will not be tolerated. *Any violation of course policies as it relates to academic integrity will result minimally in a failing or zero grade for that assignment, and at the instructor's discretion may result in a failing grade for the course. In addition, all incidents of academic misconduct will be forwarded to OSRR where university penalties, including removal from the university, may be considered. Please refer to [Purdue's Code of Honor](#), and [Purdue Honor Pledge](#).*

The following are examples of dishonesty:

- Exam cheating: Looking at another student's test, talking during a quiet exam, using secret cheat sheets and phones, etc.
- Any effort to present somebody else's work as your own or allowing your work to be presented as somebody else's.
- Having somebody else solve problems assigned for you.
- Entering iClicker responses for somebody else or having someone enter iClicker responses for you.
- Have someone sign attendance for you (or sign for an absent student) in a Lab or Recitation.

Academic integrity is one of the highest values that Purdue University holds.

Individuals are encouraged to alert university officials to potential breaches of this value by either emailing integrity@purdue.edu or by calling 765-494-8778. While information may be submitted anonymously, the more information that is submitted provides the greatest opportunity for the university to investigate the concern.

AI Policy

In this course, **the use of artificial intelligence (AI) and Large Language Models (LLMs) is prohibited**. Violations of this policy may result in academic penalties at the instructor's discretion. If unauthorized use of AI or LLMs is suspected, instructors may initiate an investigation. Students are required to fully cooperate with any such investigation.

Nondiscrimination Statement

Purdue University is committed to maintaining a community that recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters tolerance, sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among its members; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her potential. A hyperlink to Purdue's full Nondiscrimination Policy Statement is included in the Academic Resources table on your Brightspace homepage.

Accessibility

Every member of our course should be able to access, use, and learn from the materials we share. This includes all course related digital content that you and I share in the course. This approach helps promote equal access for everyone at Purdue and is mandated federally by [Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\)](#). We will work together to provide this access within our Brightspace course.

- My part, as the instructor, is to make sure all course materials shared to Brightspace, such as documents, slides, videos and audio, and images, meet accessibility guidelines and to assist you in making sure anything you share is accessible. If we can do anything further to support your access to and engagement with course materials, please notify me.
- Your role, as a student, is to make sure anything you post for other students to engage with is also accessible, such as peer grading, peer feedback, and discussion board posts. This expectation is built into all course assignments that require you to post to Brightspace.
- A good starting place for students and instructors is to bookmark and review the [Innovative Learning Accessibility Checklist](#) for guidance on creating accessible materials. We need to work together to make sure all materials on our course Brightspace are accessible.
- If you select materials to share on our Brightspace from Purdue Libraries catalog or databases, best practices include choosing items that:
 - Can be downloaded in full
 - Are available in EPUB or HTML formats
 - Include alternative text for written materials or captions for audio/visual content

Accommodations

Purdue University strives to make learning experiences accessible to all participants. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Resource Center at: drc@purdue.edu or by phone: 765-494-1247, as soon as possible.

If the Disability Resource Center (DRC) has determined reasonable accommodations that you would like to utilize in my class, you must release your Course Accommodation Letter to me. Instructions on sharing your Course Accommodation Letter can be found by visiting: [How To Use Your Course Accommodation Letter](#). Additionally, you are strongly encouraged to contact me as soon as possible to discuss implementation of your accommodation.

If you receive notification from the Dean of Students that you are entitled to accommodation, supported by a DRC Letter, please inform your instructor(s) as soon as possible. They will then confirm that they have received notification from DRC regarding your accommodation and if needed, schedule a meeting to determine proper actions.

If your accommodations include **EXAM TAKING**, please note the following responsibilities to receive those properly:

1. **You must schedule a testing session with Purdue Testing Services (PTS) for each exam listed on the course schedule.**
NOTE: **PTS requires 7 days lead time for scheduling.** They will deny any request made within 7 days of an exam. It is suggested that on the day you get approved for exam accommodation, you immediately schedule the exam testing sessions you need, as they have limited availability.
2. Course personnel will then provide the Exam (in proper format) to the PTS ahead of your scheduled test session and coordinate scoring.
3. If you do not properly secure an accommodated exam with PTS, you may still take the exam without accommodation with the rest of the class.
4. If you do not show up for your accommodated exam with PTS, you will not be allowed a makeup exam unless for a documented reason.

Mental Health/Wellness Statement

If you find yourself beginning to feel some stress, anxiety and/or feeling slightly overwhelmed, try [Therapy Assistance Online \(TAO\)](#), a web and app-based mental health resource available courtesy of Purdue Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). TAO is available to all students at any time by creating an account on the [TAO Connect](#) website, or downloading the app from the App Store or Google Play. It offers free, confidential well-being resources through a self-guided program informed by psychotherapy research and strategies that may aid in overcoming anxiety, depression and other concerns. It provides accessible and effective resources including short videos, brief exercises, and self-reflection tools.

If you need support and information about options and resources, please contact or see the [Office of the Dean of Students](#). Call 765-494-1747. Hours of operation are M-F, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

If you find yourself struggling to find a healthy balance between academics, social life, stress, etc., sign up for free one-on-one virtual or in-person sessions in West Lafayette with a [Purdue Wellness Coach at RecWell](#). Student coaches can help you navigate through barriers and challenges toward your goals throughout the semester. Sign up is free and can be done on BoilerConnect. Students in Indianapolis will find support services curated on the [Vice Provost for Student Life](#) website.

If you're struggling and need mental health services: Purdue University is committed to advancing the mental health and well-being of its students. If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed, depressed, and/or in need of mental health support, services are available. For help, such individuals should contact [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) at 765-494-6995 during and after hours, on weekends and holidays, or by going to the CAPS offices in [West Lafayette](#) or [Indianapolis](#).

Emergency Preparedness

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances beyond the instructor's control. Relevant changes to this course will be posted onto the course website or can be obtained by contacting the instructors or TAs via email or phone. You are expected to read your @purdue.edu email on a frequent basis.

See [Purdue's Information on Emergency Preparation and Planning](#). This website covers topics such as Severe Weather Guidance, Emergency Plans, and a place to sign up for the Emergency Warning Notification System. I encourage you to download and review the [Emergency Procedures Guide](#).

The first day of class, I will review the **Emergency Preparedness plan for our specific classroom**. Please make note of items like:

- The location to where we will proceed after evacuating the building if we hear a fire alarm.
- The location of our Shelter in Place in the event of a tornado warning.
- The location of our Shelter in Place in the event of an active threat such as a shooting.

Student-Related Policies

The Vice President for Ethics & Compliance website includes a list of [Student Policies](#). Among those is the [Violent Behavior](#) policy, which explains that Purdue is committed to providing a safe and secure campus environment for members of the university community. Purdue strives to create an educational environment for students and a work environment for employees that promote educational and career goals. Violent behavior impedes such goals. Therefore, violent behavior is prohibited in or on any University facility or while participating in any university activity.

Basic Needs Program

If you are facing challenges securing basic needs such as food, housing, transportation, health services, or access to technology or childcare resources and believe this may affect your performance in the course, please contact the Office of the Dean of Students (ODOS) to help coordinate with community resources. These services vary by location. In West Lafayette, see the [Basic Needs Program](#) website, or email basicneeds@purdue.edu. To connect with a Student Support Generalist on the Indianapolis campus, contact them by phone at 765-495-7797 or email studentlifeindy@purdue.edu.

Course Evaluation

Toward the end of this semester, you will be provided with an opportunity to give feedback on this course and your instructor. Purdue uses an online course evaluation system, and I will not have access to this anonymous feedback until after final grades are submitted. You will receive an official email from evaluation administrators with a link to the online evaluation site and will receive a prompt to complete the survey when you login to Brightspace. The subject line will be: Please take 2-5 minutes to complete the survey. Check your "Junk E-mail" folder occasionally to be sure the evaluation emails were not accidentally routed there. Your participation is an integral part of this course, and your feedback is vital to improving education at Purdue University. I strongly urge you to participate in the evaluation system.

This syllabus is subject to change. You will be notified of any changes as far in advance as possible via an announcement on Brightspace. Monitor your Purdue email daily for updates.