

Virginia Western Community College

PHY 201

General College Physics I

Prerequisites

MTH 161 or MTH 167 with a grade of “C” or better.

Course Description

Covers classical mechanics and thermodynamics. Includes kinematics, Newton’s laws of motion, work, energy, momentum, rotational kinematics, dynamic and static equilibrium, elasticity, gravitation, fluids, simple harmonic motion, calorimetry, ideal gas law, and the laws of thermodynamics. Part I of II. Lecture 3 hours. Laboratory 3 hours. Total 6 hours per week.

Semester Credits: 4

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 3

Required Materials

Mastering Physics (online homework system) and a scientific calculator.

Textbook:

College Physics with Mastering Physics access. Young and Adams. 11th edition. Pearson Publishing. ISBN: any of 99780135180327, 9780135720349, 9780135720516

Course Outcomes

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Apply the equations of kinematics to predict the position and the velocity at a later time.
- Apply Newton’s laws of motion to find the acceleration of the objects and to identify other forces in the system.
- Apply the conservation laws (mechanical energy conservation and momentum conservation) to compare the system before and after the interaction.
- Find the solutions of problems involving rectilinear motion, parabolic motion, circular motion & objects in equilibrium.
- Apply the conservation laws to the solutions of problems involving collisions, conservative & non-conservative forces.
- Understand the fluid mechanics, such as buoyant force and Bernoulli’s equation.
- Solve problems involving thermal expansion, heat transfer, thermodynamic processes & the behavior of ideal gases.

Topical Description

Lecture Topics

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| Chapter 1 | Models, Measurements, and Vectors |
| Chapter 2 | Motion Along a Straight Line |
| Chapter 3 | Motion in a Plane |
| Chapter 4 | Newton's Laws of Motion |
| Chapter 5 | Applications of Newton's Laws |
| Chapter 6 | Circular Motion and Gravitation |
| Chapter 7 | Work and Energy |
| Chapter 8 | Momentum |
| Chapter 9 | Rotational Motion |
| Chapter 10 | Dynamics of Rotational Motion |
| Chapter 11 | Elasticity and Periodic Motion |
| Chapter 13 | Fluid Mechanics |
| Chapter 14 | Temperature and Heat |
| Chapter 15 | Thermal Properties of Matter |
| Chapter 16 | The Second Law of Thermodynamics |

Laboratory Topics

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| Lab 1 | Introduction. Safety. Significant figures. Math review |
| Lab 2 | Pi Measurement |
| Lab 3 | Force table (vector addition) |
| Lab 4 | Free fall |
| Lab 5 | Uniform motion |
| Lab 6 | Projectile motion 1 |
| Lab 7 | Projectile motion 2 |
| Lab 8 | Atwood machine |
| Lab 9 | Friction and Newton's law |
| Lab 10 | Work-energy theorem |
| Lab 11 | Energy conservation |
| Lab 12 | Momentum conservation |

Notes to Instructors

- In order to pass the course, students should earn 50 % of the entire homework grade by the end of the semester. Earning less than 50% of homework will result in 'F grade'.

[ADA Statement \(PDF\)](#)

[Title IX Statement \(PDF\)](#)