

Virginia Western Community College

PHY 241

University Physics I

Prerequisites

MTH 263 with a grade of "C" or better.

Corequisites

MTH 264

Course Description

Covers classical mechanics and thermodynamics. Includes kinematics, Newton's laws of motion, work, energy, momentum, rotational kinematics, dynamics and static equilibrium, elasticity, gravitation, fluids, simple harmonic motion, calorimetry, ideal gas law, and the laws of thermodynamics. Part I of II.

Semester Credits: 4

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 3

Required Materials

Mastering Physics (online homework system), a scientific calculator

Textbook:

University Physics with Mastering Physics access. Young & Freeman. 15th edition. Pearson Publishing.
ISBN: any of 9780135206348, 9780135719640, 9780135717936

Course Outcomes

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

- Understand the equations of motion in one and two or three dimension and apply the equations of motion to predict the position and the velocity of an object from the initial condition.
- Understand Newton's Laws of Motion and many types of force. Set up equations using Newton's 2nd Law in order to find the acceleration of objects for linear and circular motion.
- Understand work and kinetic and potential energy as well as conservation of energy and find the speed using conservation of energy.
- Explain momentum, impulse and collisions.
- Solve problems about dynamics of rotational motion by applying Newton's 2nd Law in rotational form.
- Understand and solve problems regarding fluid mechanics, gravitation, and periodic motion.
- Solve problems involving temperature & heat, thermal property of matter, and ideal gas equation.

- Understand the first and second laws of thermodynamics and their application.

Topical Description

Lecture Topics

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|------------|------------------------------------------|
| Chapter 1 | Units, Physical Quantities and Vectors |
| Chapter 2 | Motion Along a Straight Line |
| Chapter 3 | Motion in Two or Three Dimensions |
| Chapter 4 | Newton's Laws of Motion |
| Chapter 5 | Applying Newton's Laws |
| Chapter 6 | Work and Kinetic Energy |
| Chapter 7 | Potential Energy and Energy Conservation |
| Chapter 8 | Momentum, Impulse, and Collision |
| Chapter 9 | Rotation of Rigid Bodies |
| Chapter 10 | Dynamics of Rotational Motion |
| Chapter 11 | Equilibrium |
| Chapter 12 | Fluid Mechanics |
| Chapter 13 | Gravitation |
| Chapter 14 | Periodic Motion |
| Chapter 17 | Temperature and Heat |
| Chapter 18 | Thermal Properties of Matter |
| Chapter 19 | The First Law of Thermodynamics |
| Chapter 20 | The Second Law of Thermodynamics |

Laboratory Topics

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|--------|--------------------------------------------|
| Lab 1 | Introduction. Safety. Significant figures. |
| Lab 2 | Addition of force: Vector |
| Lab 3 | Free fall |
| Lab 4 | Projectile motion |
| Lab 5 | Static and kinetic friction |
| Lab 6 | Newton's 2nd law |
| Lab 7 | Energy Conservation |
| Lab 8 | Ballistic pendulum |
| Lab 9 | Moment of inertia |
| Lab 10 | Angular momentum conservation |
| Lab 11 | Simple harmonic motion |
| Lab 12 | Archimedes principle |

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 \(PDF\)](#)