

Physics 276 - Experimental Physics II: Electricity and Magnetism

Prof. Eno – Fall 2018

Course information:

Experimental methods and tools related to circuits. Topics include inductance, capacitance, AC circuits, diodes, transistors, and amplifiers.

Prerequisites:

- PHYS272 (Introductory Physics: Fields)
- PHYS275 (Experimental Physics I: Mechanics and Heat)
 - ... and associated math courses

Instructor:

Prof. Sarah Eno, PSC 3164, Phone: 5-7179, e-mail: eno@umd.edu.

Office Hours:

By appointment; feel free to contact me to schedule a meeting. You are also welcome to come to my office without an appointment, however I may not be available.

Schedule:

- Section 0101: Monday 2:00pm-5:50 (PHYS 3120)
- Section 0201: Tuesday 2:00pm-5:50 (PHYS 3120)

You must be on time for class. If you are late, you will not be allowed to start the lab, but instead must schedule a makeup. Please note that you cannot pass the class unless you complete all labs.

Texts:

The prelab questions have to be accessed through a commercial product called “Expert TA”. There is a fee you will need to pay. The department uses the money to pay for laboratory equipment. To sign up for access:

- Enter the url, listed below, based on your section number:
 - Section
 - 101
 - 201
 - *Class Registration Code
 - TBA
 - TBA
- Complete registration and payment.

Each week, I will post corrections to the labs into the “Files” section on ELMS. We will download these corrections at the start of each lab. When there is a conflict between the version in Expert TA and the correction in ELMS, **the correction in ELMS is always right. Especially, please do not use the lab manual in expertTA.**

Optional Texts:

- A Practical Guide to Data Analysis for Physical Science Students; Louis Lyons, Cambridge Press

- An Introduction to Error Analysis; J. R. Taylor, University Science Books

Website:

The materials for this course will be available in elms.

Submission of spreadsheets and formal lab reports to be graded will be via ELMS and for the prelabs via Expert TA.

When there are contradictions between the syllabus and the material in Expert TA, the syllabus is always right. Expert TA should only be used for the prelab questions. It should not be used for anything else.

Course policies:

Students are required to do all of the assigned experiments. If you are not able to attend a scheduled lab section, make an arrangement in advance by emailing the instructor to see if there is a possibility to get permission to attend another lab session in the same week. Only those with a valid written excuse for missing a lab will be considered. Students are responsible for notifying the instructor via email within the first two weeks of the semester about projected absences due to religious observances during the semester. Sometimes you can makeup the lab during meeting time of one of the other sections. However, you need explicit permission of the instructor for that section to do this. If you cannot schedule a makeup time during the same week in one of the existing sessions, you will need to schedule an individual makeup time with your instructor. Late arrival or the using of phones for anything besides taking pictures of your apparatus during the lab is not allowed.

Course requirements:

Experiments: You will work with a partner. Your partner will be assigned, and will change each week. Students are required to submit a spreadsheet record of all that was done in the lab. You and your partner may upload one spreadsheet. **However, each person must do their own formal lab report for the labs which require this. You will use the same data, but the words should be your own.** Experimental science requires careful, well-documented, accurate data. Your spreadsheet will serve as a poor-man's log book. You need to treat it as such. You must include all information you might possibly need if somebody has a question about your result a year from now. This includes:

- Date
- Names of people working with you
- Drawings and pictures of apparatus (use your cell phone camera) and the model numbers of equipment used
- All numbers must have neat accompanying text describing the number
- Your data, including uncertainties (both statistical and systematic).
- Analysis of data with propagation of errors
- Plots and histograms when appropriate, with intelligible labels

You will not get full credit if this information is missing. The spreadsheet must be uploaded to elms before leaving class. You should seek as much advice as you need during the lab. To get a good grade, you should ask many questions of your instructor, TA, and other class mates.

The in-class spreadsheets will be graded out of 100 points as follows:

- +20 points: the lab is neat, and all information, especially numbers, are well labeled. Partial credit can be assigned at the discretion of the TA.
- The TA will make a list of all quantities that the lab asks to be put into the spreadsheet. The total of +80 points will be divided by this number. If the required information for each item is either missing or incorrect, those points will be deducted.

Laboratory Report: You and your partner are each required to submit separately his or her own written report of your results for two of the experiments. While the graphs and charts can be the same, **each person should write their own text**. The class schedule will indicate for which labs this is required. Lab reports should be submitted as a PDF file. The reports should be submitted electronically using the ELMS system (<http://elms.umd.edu/>), and will be due on the date indicated in ELMS. Please contact your instructor as soon as possible if an emergency occurs, delaying your submission. A detailed rubric, describing the lab report requirements and how they will be graded will be linked to elms and provided in the first class. **The second lab report will be graded more rigorously than the first.** Please note that the rules regarding plagiarism are relevant to lab reports. Large cut and pastes from the lab manual are not allowed. Any cut and paste of more than a sentence should be formatted following standard rules, to make it very clear which text comes from other's work.

Pre-lab Homework: Each lab on Expert TA has a set of prelab questions. These must be completed before the start of class and will be graded by Expert TA.

Final exam: The final exam will be based on material covered during the semester. Students are expected to take data following appropriate experimental procedures and explain the underlying physics. Knowledge of the workings of the instruments used in the lab will be tested. Please note that the use of google or any other external resource during the exam is expressly forbidden. If you have any questions either before or during the exam as to what resources can be used, please raise your hand and ask.

Discussion: Part of a class meeting will be devoted to discussions of the physics and data analysis for the experiments. Participation in these sessions is just as important as the experiments themselves. Attendance is mandatory. However, this is not a lecture course, and the main way that you will learn experimental physics is to by doing and discussing, rather than just listening.

Grade:

The grade is determined as a weighted average, using the weights given below. The plus/minus grading system is used.

- 50%: In-class Spreadsheet
- 10%: Pre-lab Homework
- 25%: Lab reports
- 15%: Final Exam

Laboratory Managers:

- Mr. Alan Monroe, rm 3311, John S. Toll building, 5-6002
- Mr. Greg Wolter, rm 3202, John S. Toll building, 5-6004

T.A.:

tba

Schedule:

Please see the schedule in the “Files” area of elms

Bad weather: Winter in the Washington Metro area can bring large snowstorms that make travel dangerous. Should this happen, and the University is closed as a result during a scheduled lab, class will be cancelled, and we will most likely reschedule the lab for the following week. Please look at elms for this class for details. Closing is announced on the University's homepage: <http://www.umd.edu/>.

University policies: An official list of University academic policies can be found at: <http://www.ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html>. Please see this list for policies on University-recognized reasons for missing a class, policies regarding academic integrity including plagiarism, and other matters.

Disabilities: If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible.

Disclaimer:

The instructor reserves the right to make minor changes to this syllabus to meet the specific needs of the class during the semester. Any changes will be announced in ELMS.