

**PHYS261**  
**General Physics II Laboratory**  
**Spring 2018**

**Dr. Matt Severson**  
PHY 1330 (Toll Phys)  
mseverso@umd.edu  
*Office hours by appointment*

<i>Sec</i>	<i>Lab time</i>	<i>TA</i>	<i>email</i>
0101	M 6:00-8:20pm	Arnold Chonai	achonai@umd.edu
0102	M 12:00-2:20	Yalun Yu	alanyu17@terpmail.umd.edu
0103	W 6:00-8:20pm	Yihang Wang	yhwang17@terpmail.umd.edu
0104	Tu 2:00-4:20	Yong-Chan Yoo	yongchan@terpmail.umd.edu
0105	Tu 5:00-7:20pm	Yihang Wang	↑
0106	Th 6:00-8:20pm	Yihang Wang	↑
0107	W 11:00-1:20	Yalun Yu	↑
0108	Th 12:00-2:20	Yong-Chan Yoo	↑
0109	Th 9:00-11:20am	Yong-Chan Yoo	↑
0110	Th 3:00-5:20	Yalun Yu	↑

All sections meet in PHYS261 lab room, **PHY 3219**.

*NOTE: Details in this syllabus should be taken as tentative. I will notify you when changes are made.*

### **IMPORTANT Note on Your Course Grade**

**To obtain credit for this PHYS261 laboratory course, you MUST complete ALL 9 experiments and the Final Exam.**

### **Course Description**

The 261-271 laboratory sequence gives an experimental introduction to classical and modern physics intended for students studying engineering or other similarly mathematical sciences. This first course in the sequence will begin with a brief introduction to measurement, units, and the scientific process and then consist of experiments in Newtonian mechanics, conservation laws, oscillations and waves, and thermodynamics.

**Required co-requisite:** PHYS260 (Mandatory)

*If you are signed up for this course and **NOT** signed up for the co-requisite lecture, please contact me as soon as possible.*

**Required Textbook:** The correct version of the Phys 261 lab manual for this course is available only through the **Expert TA** web system (see below). Printed editions older than Fall 2014 are entirely defunct for this course.

**Expert TA**

You will need to *purchase an account for **The Expert TA*** in order to access the lab manual AND to complete the required weekly pre-lab exercises through their online system. The **initial access code** for your section can be found on the course **ELMS** page or obtained from your TA.

Visit [www.theExpertTA.com](http://www.theExpertTA.com) and choose student registration at the bottom right to proceed. You will be prompted for the initial section access code first, and then given the opportunity to purchase the manual in the steps that follow.

Lab manual access codes can also be purchased at the Campus Book Store, with the addition of a small surcharge.

**ELMS Posts and Communicating with Me**

I will post any announcements or other important information on the course ELMS page. I will also use ELMS to send course-wide emails when necessary. *It is **your responsibility** to find such information on ELMS.* Please check the page regularly for updates. I will be rather inflexible in dealing with problems that arise due to your failure to know things that have been said on ELMS.

That said, the TA or I will be happy to answer any other questions about course material, trouble with assignments, etc as they arise. Please feel free to send me email at any time for such reasons.

**Grading Scheme**

Pre-labs	10%
Experiment reports (9)	70%
Final exam	20%

## Assignments

**Pre-lab exercises:** There are several pre-lab exercises associated with each experiment. The weekly assignments are found on the each Experiment page in the Expert TA system. Pre-labs are due *before* class begins and must be submitted prior to class start time for full credit.

**Experiment Reports:** You **MUST** complete the Excel lab spreadsheet for each of the 9 weekly experiments in order to receive credit for the course. Experiments are conducted with a partner, with whom you will share a pre-fabricated Excel template, which will contain all measurements, analyses, and answers to final questions. Partners *may* submit different answers or versions of the spreadsheet, but submissions may also be identical.

Groups of **3 students** must complete **2 spreadsheets**. ***NO groups larger than 3 are permitted UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES***. If more than 2 students have the same computer station number, only 2 assignments will be graded!

The custom spreadsheet saving process will create 2 unique copies of completed work for individual submission. Completed assignments are **submitted by every individual student** via upload to the ELMS page; even if the work submitted by partners is identical, two submissions are required.

**Final Exam:** The final assignment for the course is a written exam, rather than a culminating lab. Exam will consist of short answer questions, some of which will be similar to those in pre-lab or experiment final questions; other questions will be more directly related to experimental or procedural aspects of the experiments.

***The exam is NOT during finals week. It occurs in your last regularly scheduled class session.***

The week before the Exam, you will have an opportunity to do a lab-based review, which will cover the material on the Exam and provide you with sample questions to study.

Again, you **MUST** complete the Exam to receive credit for the course!

## Attendance, Religious Observances, and University Closures

Since all experiments (and the exam) **must** be completed to receive credit for the course, **attendance** is effectively **mandatory**.

*We are under no obligation to excuse your absence for weak or illegitimate reasons.*

***If you need to miss*** an experiment or exam for a religious observance or other legitimate reason known at this time, ***please notify me in advance***, and preferably ASAP.

If you miss due to illness or emergency, *please contact your TA ASAP* after the fact, and obtain documentation of the incident if possible.

In both cases, make-up for the experiment in question will be arranged accordingly, usually during designated make-up weeks.

If the **university is closed** due to inclement weather or some emergency situation, **I will contact you on ELMS** with further instructions.

## Academic Integrity

Performing physics experiments can be a difficult and tedious process; all students will work with a partner on the experiments. The spreadsheet saving process will create 2 unique copies of completed work for individual submission.

There are a number of security features in each spreadsheet to make the unique identification of your work (with your partner) nearly inevitable. I will have zero tolerance for submission of work you were not present to complete. Such absurd behavior may result in an XF grade for the course and/or further action taken by the Student Honor Council.

## Students with Disabilities

Accommodations will be provided to enable students with disabilities to participate fully in the course. Please discuss any needs with me at the beginning of the semester, so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Students who are registered with DSS and plan to take exams at their facilities should provide the pertinent authorization forms (electronic format is fine) *at least* one week prior to each exam date.

## PHYS 261 Tentative Schedule

### Spring 2017

<i>Wk</i>	<i>Week of</i>	<i>Experiment</i>
1	Jan 23	<i>No labs</i>
2	Jan 29	1 - Introduction to Excel
3	Feb 5	2 - Uncertainty in Measurement
4	Feb 12	3 - Position, Velocity, and Acceleration
5	Feb 19	4 - Momentum and Drag
6	Feb 26	5 - Centripetal Motion
7	Mar 5	6 - The Pendulum
8	Mar 12	Make up - Expts 1-6
9	Mar 19	<i>No labs due to Spring Break holiday</i>
10	Mar 26	7 - Forced Harmonic Motion
11	Apr 2	8 - Waves on a String
12	Apr 9	9 - Ideal Gas Law and Absolute Zero Temp
13	Apr 16	Make up - Expts 7-9
14	Apr 23	10 - Review for Exam
15	Apr 30	<b>11 - Final Exam</b>