

Syllabus

Physics 203a – **Architectural Physics**

MW 3:30-4:45, and a problem session Tuesday or Thursday at 6

Instructor: Paul Fendley

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Office hours: Tuesday 2-4, Wednesday 2-3, and by appointment

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Text: Cutnell and Johnson, *Physics*. I will post my lecture notes as the semester goes along at <http://rockpile.phys.virginia.edu/203a.html> . Last year's notes are already posted there. The class will be similar, but not identical (note that last year's class was MWF, so there are more lectures). You will also be able to find this page through the physics department homepage at <http://www.phys.virginia.edu/> .

Grading:

Final: 35%

2 Midterms: 15% each

Homework and in-section quizzes: 25%

In-class quizzes: 10%

The midterms will be at the beginning of October and the beginning of November. If these dates are going to be problems for anybody, please let me know as soon as possible. Our final is the last possible day, Monday December 17, at 2 p.m.

Homework and the Problem Session:

You will have a homework assignment (roughly 8-10 problems) due every week in class on Monday. The purpose of your problem session will be to help you learn how to do the homework – understanding how to do physics problems is the key to understanding the course. It will focus on the upcoming assignment, and on reviewing graded problems. **Attendance is required.**

Quizzes:

You will have periodic unannounced quizzes in lecture (roughly once a week), and in your problem session (less often).

Outline:

- We will spend more than half the semester on **Mechanics**. This is the material in chapters 2-10 of the book.
- a lecture or two on **Fluids** (chapter 11).
- 2-3 lectures on **Heat** (chapters 12-15).
- 2-3 lectures on **Waves** (chapter 16-17).
- some rudimentary **Electricity and Magnetism** (chapters 18-24)

The bulk of the class is mechanics; we will cover most of the first 10 chapters of the book. For the others, we will not cover everything in the book. When the time comes I will make it clear which material you are responsible for.