Physics and Astronomy  
University of Waterloo  
Term and Year of Offering: Fall 2013  
Course Number and Title: Phys 256L Physical and Geometrical Optics Lab  

Instructor’s Name, Office Location, Office Hours, Contact: Jeff Gardiner, PHY 260, 8:30-4:30 M-F  

Course Description:  
This laboratory course covers experiments in geometrical and physical optics. Various refraction, diffraction and interference phenomena are studied.  

Course Objectives:  
(1) To provide direct experience with physical and geometrical optics principles studied in Physics 256.  
(2) To teach systematic methods of data collection and analysis, and the clear and accurate reporting of results.  
(3) To teach the use of standard measurement apparatus.  
(4) To teach how to assess uncertainty in experimental measurements, and to propagate and calculate error in the results.  

Evaluation: The course grade will be based on 5 lab reports, and a final lab examination which will be held during the last week of term and will include written and practical components. The breakdown is as follows:  

Lab Assignments 70%  
Final Examination 30%  

Lab Assignments: There will be 5 lab assignments each marked out of 20  

Rules for Group Work in Lab Assignments: Students perform the experiment with a partner, but independently analyze and write up a report.  

Lab Deadline: Written lab reports are to be handed in to the submission box (outside PHY 211A) by 5:30pm one week from the day of the lab session.  

Missed Labs: Any student who misses a lab should make arrangements with course instructor as soon as possible afterwards to complete the lab
Pick up Marked Labs: Marked lab assignments will be available from your TA during your lab section. Your TA will arrange a time in which you may review your project lab.

Academic Integrity, Grievance, Discipline, Appeals and Note for Students with Disabilities: see www.uwaterloo.ca/accountability/documents/courseoutlinestmts.pdf

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. [Check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/ for more information.]

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm. When in doubt please be certain to contact the department’s administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity [check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/] to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate Associate Dean. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71, Student Discipline, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm. For typical penalties check Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/guidelines/penaltyguidelines.htm.

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 (Student Petitions and Grievances) (other than a petition) or Policy 71 (Student Discipline) may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to Policy 72 (Student Appeals) www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm.

Note for Students with Disabilities: The Office for persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.