Course Outline for Physics 263/ Applied Math 261

Course:
Physics 263 Classical Mechanics and Special Relativity
SpringTerm, 2011
Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Waterloo
Instructors:
    James Forrest (jforrest@uwaterloo.ca), office PHYS 360

Office hours will be by appointment

Text:

Course Website:
http://uwace.uwaterloo.ca
    Course assignments/solutions/due dates and notifications will be listed on this site. It is your responsibility to check this site regularly for updates

Course Outline (subject to change):
Definitions, Newton’s Laws, Forces and Potential
Oscillations, Simple Harmonic motion, forced motion, resonance
Central Force motion, Kepler’s laws
Gravitation
Special Relativity, Lorentz Transformation, Invariance

Assignments:
Students are to work individually on assignments. Please see the notes on academic integrity and discipline below.

Mid-term Test:
The location and date of the mid-term will be announced later in class and on the web site.

Final Examination:
This will be a two and a half hour exam scheduled by the Registrar’s office during the final exam period. The exam will cover all the course material. An equation sheet will be provided.

Grading:
The instructor will choose the best of
1. 20% assignments, 30% midterm test, 50% final exam
2. 20% assignments, 10% midterm test, 70% final exam
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 http://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, http://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 http://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, http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm. For typical penalties check Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties, http://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) http://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.