

Physics 4A

Winter 2025

Instructor: David Newton

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Web Site URL: <http://nebula2.deanza.edu/~newton> (in addition to Canvas)

Office hours: Tuesday 1:30-2:20pm, Wednesday 12:30-1:20pm.

Final exam date: Tuesday, March 25th, 1:45 pm to 3:45 pm. Finals will not be given earlier or later.

Text: Physics for Scientists and Engineers: by Serway, edition... whatever you want.

Prerequisites: Passing Physics 50, 2A, or high school physics, and at least concurrent enrollment in Math 1B.

This class will cover elementary mechanics beginning with kinematics, then Newton's laws, energy, momentum, rotation, gravitation, and then briefly at the end, simple harmonic oscillations. Previous competence in vectors, basic kinematics, and Newton's laws is assumed.

- It is the student's responsibility to drop the class if necessary. Otherwise, an F grade will be assigned.
- Grading mistakes or protests for exams and quizzes will *only* be considered when a written cover letter is submitted to your instructor with the exam or quiz in question. Your appeal will be considered, and the resultant decision will be final. No protests will be considered orally, this includes simple addition errors.
- A grade of zero points will be assigned to any work done if a student has been found cheating.
- You must take the two mid-term exams, the lab final and the lecture final to pass the class.
- Lab attendance is required.
- Grades will be given on the percentages as shown below:

A: 92-100%;

A-: 90-91%

B+: 88-89%

B: 82-87%;

B-: 80-81%

C+: 78-79%

C: 60-77%;

D: 50-60%;

F: lower than 50%.

Grades will not "curved".

The grade distribution is as follows:

Lab 10% (Attendance absolutely required.)

Quizzes 20%

Exams: two midterm exams, 20% each.

Final 30% (comprehensive, with seven exam-style questions.)

Lab Policy: Lab attendance is mandatory. You may miss *no* labs without a *written* physician's note or some other documented and serious reason. If you miss two labs even with a “justified” excuse or just one unexcused lab you will be liable for an instructor initiated drop from the entire course.

Student Learning Outcome(s):

- Examine new, previously un-encountered problems by critically analyzing and evaluating their constituent parts, to construct and explain a logical solution utilizing, and based upon, the fundamental laws of mechanics.
- Acquire skill and confidence in taking precise and accurate scientific measurements, with their uncertainties, and then with calculations from them, analyze their meaning as relative, in an experimental context, to the verification and support of physics theories.

Office Hours:

T 02:30 PM 03:20 PM In-Person S32