This is a sample syllabus for PHY1020. Students should reference the section syllabus provided at the beginning of the semester for specifics regarding assignments and grade assignments.
Course Description

PHY1020 is a Liberal Studies course for the non-science major that contains the essential physics that students need in order to understand today’s core science and technology issues, and to become the next generation of world leaders. The course empowers students possessing any level of scientific background with the tools they need to make informed decisions and to argue their views persuasively with anyone—expert or otherwise.

The lectures will occasionally cover material that is not in the text. The course will not cover all the material in the text. You are responsible for all the material in the assigned chapters (excluding the parts labeled optional unless stated otherwise in lecture), the material covered during the class periods, and the material in the assigned online work. The goal is that you will find the course interesting, challenging and enjoyable.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, students will demonstrate the ability to:

- think critically and cogently about causal relationships with scientific reasoning.
- assess previous experimentation and published scientific results.
- critically examine and evaluate scientific observation, hypothesis or model construction.

Course Materials

The following materials are used in this course.

Textbook

Physics and Technology for Future Presidents by Richard A. Muller. See the publisher’s website (http://press.princeton.edu/titles/9226.html (Links to an external site.)) and the author’s website (http://www.muller.lbl.gov/teaching/Physics10/PffP.html (Links to an external site.)).
iClicker

We will use the iClicker system during lecture periods to ask/answer questions. Participation will benefit you and other students, but it will not be used for credit this semester.

Course Assignments and Evaluation

Examinations

There will be three exams. The first two exams will cover specific chapters/material and will be administered through Canvas on dates listed below. The third exam will be given during the scheduled period during exam week and will cover the remaining chapters (2/3) plus some questions on material from the earlier chapters (1/3). The rules and regulations for students taking the exams are given in the FSU Academic Honor Policy (see below).

- Exam 1: Thurs. Oct. 6, Chapters 1, 2, 4
- Exam 2: Thurs. Nov. 10, Chapters 5, 6, 7
- Final exam: Tues. Dec. 6 12:30-2:30pm, Chapters 8, 9, 10 plus some questions on material from earlier chapters

Online Work

Online assignments will be made weekly. You can find them in the Assignments tab of the course website on Canvas. Each week you will have two tasks to do online. First, you will have an essay assignment. Instructions and advice regarding the essay assignments are in the Course Library on Canvas. Second, you will have a weekly quiz of multiple choice questions that you can answer by carefully reading the relevant chapter of the textbook. You can take each quiz five times, and your highest score will be counted.

Grading

Grade Calculation

Your point total for the course will be determined by a combination of your online work scores and exam scores. You may earn a maximum of 100 points in the course. The three exams together will count 35 points. The weekly online assignments count for 65 points: 55 points for the writing and 10 points for the quizzes (see above). In computing your 55 essay points, the ten best essay scores will be used.

Exams................................................................. 35 pts

Exam 1................................................. 10 pts
Exam 2................................................... 10 pts
Final Exam........................................... 15 pts
Weekly Online Assignments.............................. 65 pts
Writing........................................................................  55 pts
Quizzes......................................................................  10 pts
An example of how your total points are computed is in the Files tab on Campus. No extra credit work will be assigned.

Attendance

Experience from previous years shows that your grade is strongly correlated with your attendance!

Final Grades
Here are the breakpoints for some of the grades:

Letter grades  Breakpoints

A-/B+  90 points
B-/C+  80 points
C-/D  70 points
D/F  60 points

What these mean, for example, is that if you earn 91 points, your grade will be no worse than an A-, etc. The breakpoints for A, B, etc. will not be decided until after the last exam.

Some Sensible Advice

It will be great if everyone passes this course. Unfortunately, some people find doing physics rather difficult. Below are a few tips to help make your adventures in physics fun.

- Use the textbook. You paid good money for it! Read each chapter before it is covered in class.
- Attend class.
- Find a study partner. **We strongly encourage students to study and learn together.**

Good luck and I hope you enjoy the course!

**University Policies**

**University Attendance Policy**

Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.

**Academic Honor Policy**

The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University's expectations for the integrity of students' academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to "...be honest and truthful and...[to] strive for personal and institutional integrity at Florida State University.” (Florida State University Academic Honor Policy, found at https://fda.fsu.edu/academic-resources/academic-integrity-and-grievances/academic-honor-policy (Links to an external site)).

**ACADEMIC SUCCESS:**

Your academic success is a top priority for Florida State University. University resources to help you succeed include tutoring centers, computer labs, counseling and health services, and services for designated groups, such as veterans and students with disabilities. The following information is not exhaustive, so please check with your advisor or the Department of Student Support and Transitions to learn more.

**Americans with Disabilities Act**

Florida State University (FSU) values diversity and inclusion; we are committed to a climate of mutual respect and full participation. Our goal is to create learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive, and welcoming. FSU is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities in a manner that is
consistent with academic standards of the course while empowering the student to meet integral requirements of the course.

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should:

(1) register with and provide documentation to the Office of Accessibility Services; and
(2) request a letter from the Office of Accessibility Services to be sent to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type; and,
(3) meet (in person, via phone, email, skype, zoom, etc...) with each instructor to whom a letter of accommodation was sent to review approved accommodations.

Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from the Office of Accessibility Services has been provided.

This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.

For the latest version of this statement and more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the:

Office of Accessibility Services
874 Traditions Way
108 Student Services Building
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167
(850) 644-9566 (voice)
(850) 644-8504 (TDD)
oas@fsu.edu
https://dsst.fsu.edu/oas (Links to an external site.) (Links to an external site.)

CONFIDENTIAL CAMPUS RESOURCES:

Various centers and programs are available to assist students with navigating stressors that might impact academic success. These include the following:

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<tr>
<th>Information on student support services.</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Victim Advocate Program</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>University Center A, Rm. 4100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(850) 644-7161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available 24/7/365</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Hours: M-F 8-5</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="https://dsst.fsu.edu/vap">https://dsst.fsu.edu/vap</a> (Links to an external site.)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Counseling and Psychological Services</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Askew Student Life Center, 2nd floor</td>
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<tr>
<td>942 Learning Way</td>
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<tr>
<td>(850) 644-8255</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="https://counseling.fsu.edu/">https://counseling.fsu.edu/</a> (Links to an external site.)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>University Health Services</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Health and Wellness Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>(850) 644-6230</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="https://uhs.fsu.edu/">https://uhs.fsu.edu/</a> (Links to an external site.)</td>
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Free Tutoring from FSU

On-campus tutoring and writing assistance is available for many courses at Florida State University. For more information, visit the Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) Tutoring Services’ comprehensive list of on-campus tutoring options at http://ace.fsu.edu/tutoring (Links to an external site.) or tutor@fsu.edu. High-quality tutoring is available by appointment and on a walk-in basis. These services are offered by tutors trained to encourage the highest level of individual academic success while upholding personal academic integrity.

Liberal Studies for the 21\textsuperscript{st} Century

The Liberal Studies for the 21\textsuperscript{st} Century Program at Florida State University builds an educational foundation that will enable FSU graduates to thrive both intellectually and materially and to support themselves, their families, and their communities through a broad and critical engagement with the world in which they live and work. Liberal Studies thus offers a transformative experience. This course has been approved as meeting the Liberal Studies requirements for Natural Sciences and thus is designed to help you become a critical appraiser of the theories of the natural sciences and the facts that support them.

Syllabus Change Policy

Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.