

PHYSICS 3210
Classical Mechanics
Fall 2017

Lecture: 12:00 - 12:50 a.m. MWF, Physics Building, Room 205

Instructor: Peter Arnold, Physics Building, Room 320

Office hours: Initially M and Tu 4:30 - 5:30. Changes will be announced by e-mail.

If it's a *quick* question, you can try dropping by my office unannounced at other times, or ask after class.

Phone: 924-6813; e-mail: parnold@virginia.edu

Grader: Brandon Krieston, btk8bh@virginia.edu

TEXT: John R. Taylor, *Classical Mechanics*.

Grade weighting

40% Final Exam: **Tuesday, May 9, 2:00-5:00**

25% Midterm Exam: Friday, March 17, in class

35% Homework

except that I reserve the right to decide that I want to give some short in-class quizzes (announced in advance) during the semester. If I do, such quizzes would in total count for no more than 5% of the grade (carved out of the 35% for homework)

Homework: Will always be due at the **start** of the class in which it is due. Late homework will be assessed a penalty, which will grow as time increases. (But if you know in advance that you have some scheduling problem, just talk to me in advance about the possibility of an extension.)

Collaboration on Homework: Collaborating with your classmates on working out methods of solution is actively encouraged! However, you must write up your solutions on your own—copying someone else's paper is unacceptable. The same is true if at any point you look at a solution on the internet (or in a book). When you are finally writing up your own solution, you may not have someone else's solution in front of you.

As to the internet, I am sure you can find solutions to problems from Taylor somewhere. I strongly, strongly, strongly discourage you from looking for solutions except as a very last result, after hours of struggle. And, even then, I strongly recommend asking your classmates and me for help before turning to the internet. You will not learn anything if, to save time in what I know are busy schedules, you make the internet your go-to source for doing the problem sets. No pain, no gain.

Attendance: You are responsible for all material presented in class; turning in your homework on time; knowing problem assignments; and knowing any administrative announcements made, such as changes to the syllabus or changes to the scheduling of homeworks or exams or the announcement of a future quiz.

Topics covered: My plan is to cover chapters 1–11 of Taylor. Supplemental material added as time permits. This is my first time teaching the course, and so I may modify the plan once I see how things are going.