



Spring 2013 Comment Report for PHYS 2040 - 3 Basic Physics Laboratory II Abha Rajan

Project Title: **20198 Project**

Course Audience: **24**

Responses Received: **16**

Response Ratio: **66.67%**

Please make any overall comments or observations about this course:

Comments
Really enjoyed having Abha as our TA. She really helped us through the lab by asking us questions and guiding us through with additional questions to reach an understanding. She was very approachable. With the manual, some questions were sometimes repeated in that some questions could be answered in one question rather than in two separate questions say like you place an answer. Then the next question asked for the work leading to the answer which at that point, you have already written it in the previous question.
I do not know who Jongsoo Yoon is. Abha was my TA and she did a wonderful job.
This course should be changed. The labs take too long and must be rushed to be completed in time. It is especially difficult to work if you have a bad group with students who did not prepare.
better when lab material matches up with lecture material
Abha Rajan was a great TA! She's very good at explaining the concepts and helping us get the most out of lab.
Abha is very kind and helpful. Overall she was a great TA
Best TA I've had in the physics department. She really did her best to help us understand the parts that confused us, even if the issue was complicated or not addressed in the text.
This needs to be worth more than one credit. The post-lab quizzes need to be more relevant to the activities in lab. It would also be helpful if some of the labs were shortened. Half of the time we were rushing to finish the labs, and afterwards I was unable to recall certain parts of the lab because we had moved so quickly.
This lab could be a valuable and fun part of an introduction to physics. However, rather than thinking and learning, everyone rushes through the lab to complete the questions. The course instructor should consider creating labs with 80-90% of the material in the same amount of time. Students would then actually have time to reflect on the lessons being learned and would better understand concepts. More students would probably have a favorable opinion of the course if this were the case. On another note, Abha Rajan was a great TA!
I think the questions throughout the lab should be altered so that they say the TA wants an explanation for the observation. Sometimes the question did not state this and the TA took off points because she wanted us to explain. Also, a lot of the questions are repetitive. Lastly, there seemed to be a large number of statistical questions that did not seem pertinent in this course, mostly because we were not taught some of the statistical measurements.
Abha was very helpful and understanding. I enjoyed her much more than a previous physics lab TA.
Seriously, Abha was one of the best TA's I ever had. How she put up with our constant stream of questions and outpouring of stupidity I will never know. Super patient, kind, understanding, willing to explain. Heads and shoulders above all the rest of the graduate students. HAVE HER TA ALL OF THE PHYSICS LABS NEXT SEMESTER I AM NOT EVEN KIDDING. Promote her to lecturer and let her teach a course. Physics lab was a mediocre experience at best; Abha was its single redeeming quality and the reason why I did not detest the class. Thumbs up all around. Great TA!
This course requires a lot of time and work compared to the number of credits they offer. The post labs are often not directly related to the procedures in lab or the prelab questions therefore it seems difficult to prepare for the post lab quizzes.

Instructor-contributed question.

Comments
Answer N/A
Answer N/A
Answer N/A
Answer N/A
Answer N/A
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Answer N/A
Answer N/A
Answer N/A
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Answer N/A
Answer N/A
Answer N/A

How much did the demos, videos, and classroom activities, if applicable, contribute to your understanding of the subject matter?

Comments
The classroom activities really helped solidify content material.
The lab videos didn't help much.
The videos helped me become familiar with the apparatus so that I could work faster in lab.
The videos were helpful at times.
helpful
The equations are sometimes presented differently than what we see in the lecture. I think it would be more beneficial to our understanding (and the two classes would reinforce themselves more) if the variables and equation forms were all consistent.
great
I didn't use them and had no trouble completing the assignments and doing well.
I did not watch the demos or videos. The labs themselves helped a great deal in my understand of the subject matter. I only wish that they would have more correlation with the material we were learning at the time in lecture.
The videos were somewhat helpful to explain the devices used in lab.
The videos on Collab were somewhat helpful and gave me a general idea about what the lab was going to be like.
I thought the videos were helpful because they showed students how to use the equipment before coming to lab.
The videos on collab were very helpful!
The videos sometimes were helpful but I didn't watch them every week.
the videos helped me understand how to use the materials in lab

Was the text informative and helpful?

Comments
Yes, text brought a lot of information, but is more a supplement as you need the lecture portion to sort of understand more of what is expected in lab.
Yep
The text should be revised and edited since there are many errors and typos.
The text still had some errors in the book, and so if those were changed, it could be better.
yes
Yes
at times I thought the text could have been more straight forward. Postlab quizzes were confusing sometimes because of this
Yes, usually. There were times when the equations weren't fully explained, which made using them difficult.
Sometimes. There were multiple times when I would have to refer to my textbook for lecture.
The text was helpful when it mirrored the textbook but at times it complicated simple topics.
Somewhat
The lab manual was usually difficult to read but had all the information there.
The lab manual was pretty good. Very self-explanatory and to the point.
Yes
The lab manual was good for the experiments but awful for the prelab quizzes and the postlab quizzes. On the bright side, the errors seem to have been mostly fixed.
the text was somewhat helpful but not very useful or relevant in some of the post lab quizzes