



Lab Policies and Guidelines

1110 and 1111 C term 2021

Last Edited January 25, 2021

I. Welcome to the labs!

Welcome to physics 1110/1111 labs! You will perform 5 labs this semester, some combination of in person + remote or fully remote, depending on your on campus status.

II. Schedules

Week	Date Week begins on	Lab // Assignment for that week	Points	Due Date	
0	Thursday, January 28, 2021	Pre-lab Survey and Lab Rules	2	Sunday, January 31, 2021	FULLY
1	Monday, February 1, 2021	Lab 1R quiz	6	Sunday, February 7, 2021	REMOTE
		Lab 1R	10	Sunday, February 7, 2021	LABS
2	Monday, February 8, 2021	Lab 2R	20	Sunday, February 14, 2021	
		In person Safety Quiz	0	Monday, February 15, 2021	
3	Monday, February 15, 2021	Lab 3 or 3R	20	Sunday, February 21, 2021	
4	Monday, February 22, 2021	No lab, just makeup labs			
5	Monday, March 1, 2021	Lab 4 or 4R	20	Sunday, March 7, 2021	
6	Monday, March 8, 2021	Lab 5 or 5R	20	Sunday, March 14, 2021	
7	Monday, March 15, 2021	TA review	2	Wednesday, March 17, 2021	
				total points	
					100

Figure 1: This is the schedule for when the labs will be performed this semester. If you are fully remote your labs will end in an R. If you are an in person student you will perform an in person lab each week. Students are required to complete the pre-lab survey and Lab Rules quiz before they can access the remote labs, and they must complete the in person safety quiz before they are allowed to access the in person labs.

III. In person students policies

III.1. In person safety

There will be rigid, uncompromising policies on in person interactions and safety in lab. **Lab Instructors have full discretion to decide on what violates these policies, and students who do not comply with these safety standards will receive a zero for this lab, or at an extreme we will consider never allowing the student back into in-person lab this semester. This is for your safety and the safety of your peers.** You cannot attend or access the in person labs unless you pass the in person safety quiz, and you should perform the fully remote labs if you cannot pass that quiz.

These standards include, but are not limited to

- Wearing a mask the whole time one is in lab.
- Cleaning your work space before and after lab with sanitizing wipes and sprays.
 - At the beginning of class grab a spray bottle and some paper towels. Then take them back to your station and spray everything you expect to touch (Keyboard, mouse, your chair). **Do not spray the electronics.**

- Then wipe them down, or let it sit for a few minutes. See the next point for more information about why you may wish to let the cleaning agent sit.
- At the end of class spray down all the things you touched (the table you sat at, the keyboard, mouse, your chair) and then **do not wipe it off with a paper towel**. In truth these cleaning agents require 10 minutes of application to achieve full efficacy. Therefore, as we are trying to end class on the 40 minute mark rather than the 50, (aka 20 minutes before the next class) this way we have time for you to leave the cleaning agent sitting on the ‘dirtied’ area before the next class.

- Staying 6 feet away from others, and respecting peoples space if they ask you to ‘stay back’.

This semester we have moved the sections around so that there are only 12 students in each section. That means that we can offer every lab in person for those who are on or near campus.

IV. Open Lab

If you need extra lab time OH 117 will be open from 3-5 on Friday’s. Please remain respectful, safe, turn on the fans, and only 12 students are allowed in the room. **If you have any issues in lab, and your Lab Instructor is not available please either email Dana, or knock on their door (Olin 125 next to the elevator)**. There will be no lab instructor there to help you during open lab, but you may work with the equipment and computers to take extra data, or use logger pro if you need to.

V. Remote student policies

You will have your own section, so please if you are fully remote and not in the fully remote section (PH 1110 section 13 and 14) please email the lab manager ldana@wpi.edu. Your course instructor will hold lab hours twice a week. You are required to go to one of these meetings. Please see Fig. 1 for when you are due to go into lab, and Fig. 1 for when one’s lab reports are due.

VI. All Students

VI.1. Extensions

All students should email their Lab Instructor to ask for extensions. If a student emails at least 6 hours before the deadline they get an automatic day extension, no penalty. After that day, or if a student does not email, your lab report loses one point per day. There are no possible extensions past the Friday before the term ends. If the term ends on a Friday, then the Friday before that one is the last possible day for an extension. For extensions you should email your request towards your Lab Instructor.

If you ask and receive an extension please know it may take your Lab Instructor longer than the normal 1- 2 weeks to grade your lab report.

An example extension request is below. If you are having trouble with any specific aspect of the lab please include it in your email. If it is a python question please provide screenshots of your code.

Hello (Insert what your Lab Instructor has asked to be called here. If you’re not sure you should copy their signature),

I’m sorry to email you, but I don’t think I am going to finish the lab by the deadline. I have had this specific issue with the lab, and (then explain the issue you are having with the lab).

May I have another day (or three)to continue working on the lab?

Best,
Student Name

VI.2. Lab Rules

- Lab materials (including Canvas quizzes) are due at noon on the day they are due, according to the schedule above.
- Lab partners cannot have identical answers to theoretical questions (the questions where we require you to write a few sentences), and we would consider answers that are exactly the same academic dishonesty.
- Do not send other students your lab reports, even your partner or your friends. If someone copies the lab report you sent them you can also be help responsible for an academic honesty violation. It’s not fair, but it is the situation we find ourselves in. If another student needs help with the python code send that separately, do not send your whole lab report.

- Students should share their data taken in lab with their lab partner, but for remote labs they should always try and take their own data first. Please consult with your Lab Instructor if there is a reason you cannot take your own data, for both in person lab and remote labs. If so we will either provide you with data to analyze, or ask your lab partner to share with you.
- Students who work together need to include their partners names at the top of their worksheets. Even if you were not assigned a partner, but just worked with a friend, you should include their name. If you have concerns about what can be considered academic dishonesty please talk to your Lab Instructor! You will not be punished for asking!
- Additionally you should perform any analysis individually. You may consult and help other peers, but you should do your own graphing, data processing, and statistics. If your code looks a lot like the resource code that's okay, but you should be running your own code, and not asking a peer to run it for you. Students are expected to make their own graphs, and not share graphs. The only exception is Logger Pro graphs that students format together in class.
- Labs must be submitted on Canvas as a PDF file. Please convert your lab into a PDF before submitting your lab. Each partner must submit their own copy of the lab on Canvas. Though numerical data and calculations may be shared between partners, any conceptual questions must be answered separately. If you are not sure whether a question qualifies as conceptual, ask your Lab Instructor. Identical lab reports will receive a grade of zero for both lab partners! After you submit your lab, check whether your lab was correctly uploaded and that it is not blank or corrupted.
- You must show all work, such that someone reading your lab would be able to replicate all of your calculations. Make sure that all your axes are labeled and all labels are big enough to be read when you copy them into your lab report. In LoggerPro, this is easily accomplished either by shrinking the graph before you copy it or by increasing the font size. Every answer should use the appropriate number of significant figures, including uncertainties. Answers given without units will not receive full credit.
- No food or drinks are allowed in the lab room at any time.
- Attendance: For fully remote students you will have a 'synchronous lab' period week. You are required to attend one and check in with your Lab Instructor. You are not required to stay for the whole period, but you must check in with your Lab Instructor. We will assign lab partners based on a pre-lab survey, and we encourage, but do not require, you to work with your lab partner.
- Attendance: For in person students your schedule can vary, but if you are assigned in person lab for that day you must **email beforehand if you cannot attend.**
- **Your physics grade may depend on completing all of the labs in this course. Failure to complete labs may result in an NR for your course. See the requirements for lab above and be proactive.**
- You do not need to ask to go to the bathroom. Please feel free to get up, take a break, go for a short walk whenever you wish.
- Please know that lab ends on the 40 minute mark, so please try and keep any (recommended) breaks you take short enough that you finish your entire lab.
- You should never need to buy anything for physics lab. If you're concerned about acquiring a material for lab please reach out!

VI.3. Academic Honesty

Please review WPI's policies on Academic Honesty. What this means for lab is that your words and your work should be your own. This is covered more explicitly in the Lab Rules section, but we take this issue very seriously.

If a violation is egregious enough then we will consider kicking a student out of lab, and not letting them finish the course.

VI.4. Reaching Out

If it is a question about the lab, such as help with Python or a homework question please direct that towards the Slack channel, or email your Lab Instructor.

All extension requests should be emailed to your Lab Instructor.

If it is a question about lab scheduling please ask your Lab Instructor's first, and then ask the Lab Manager (ldana@wpi.edu) if they don't know.

If it is a personal or sensitive topic please feel free to reach out via email to your Lab Instructors or Lab Manager. This includes requests for accommodations, grading issues or concerns about safety in lab. If you have **any** concerns about in person safety please email Dana (ldana@wpi.edu). We take issues of COVID and personal safety very seriously.

Dana has office hours Friday 9:30-10:30 at this link. The password is 314. Students who come to office hours with administrative questions will be given priority, but if you wish to ask for help with the lab themselves that's fine. Dana cannot not help you with homework or the quizzes. Dana also know nothing about Mastering Physics or Pearsons or any other software that's not working.

If you have questions about the labs please do **not** contact your conference instructor or course professor, please contact your Lab Instructors or Lab Manager.

VI.5. Accessibly

Please reach out to the Lab Manager (ldana@wpi.edu) if you want to talk about accessibility of the labs. We understand that traditional labs and education systems are not always disability friendly, and we are committed to helping every student succeed. We are happy to support students with physical, learning, sensory, psychological, developmental, and other disabilities in achieving their full potential.

VI.5.1 Accessibility statement from WPI

Students with approved academic accommodations should plan to submit their accommodation letters through the Office of Accessibility Services Student Portal. Should you have any questions about how accommodations can be implemented in this particular course, please contact me as soon as possible. Students who are not currently registered with the Office of Accessibility Services (OAS) but who would like to find out more information regarding requesting accommodations and what that entails should plan to contact them via email: AccessibilityServices@wpi.edu and/or via phone: (508) 831-4908.

VI.6. Possible Accommodations (NOT EXHAUSTIVE)

- Logger pro offers assistance if you are vision impaired
- If you need more time or a quieter space to finish a lab we have open lab hours. There might not be a TA there to help, but Dana is across the hall if anything goes wrong.
- If you miss a lab please contact your TA or Dana, often we will either ask you to go to open lab hours, or perform the associated remote lab.
- Please feel free to take breaks during lab, and you do not have to ask your TA if you can leave.
- If you're having trouble hearing your TA or peer's they will be happy to speak up, or we can search for other options.