

WELCOME TO PHY 481

ELECTROSTATICS

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IMPORTANT SITES

- Course Webpage: dannycab.github.io/phy481msu_f2017/
- Discussion Forum: piazza.com/msu/fall2017/phy481
(Check your email)

COURSE ACTIVITIES

- Exams (2 of them; Oct 13 and Nov 10) - 20% each
- Final Exam (Time and Location: TBD) - 20%
- Homework (Lots of it; Due on Wednesdays) - 40%
- Clickers - Extra Credit - reduce impact of exams

[Much more detail on website](#)

Learning is a social and collaborative act!

HOMEWORK HELP SESSION

Evening session twice per week (Location TBD)

Question to you: When should we do this?

- A. Monday 4-5pm
- B. Monday 5-6pm
- C. Tuesday 4-5pm
- D. Tuesday 5-6pm
- E. None of these times work

Reminder: Homework is due on Wednesdays.

How likely are you to attend the help sessions?

- A. Very likely; I'll attend one or both.
- B. Likely, but only if the “+” extends past 7
- C. Not likely, I really want a different day/time
- D. I'm unlikely to attend regardless of schedule

THIS WEEK!!!

- Homework 1 is already up (Due Wed. Sept. 6)
- Read (seriously do this!) Griffiths Ch 1.1-1.4 & 2.1-2.2 [1]
- [Download Anaconda distribution of Python](#)

Stay up-to-date by checking website, calendar, and discussion forum regularly.

[1]: *I am assuming that Ch. 1 of Griffiths is mostly review.*

COMPUTATIONAL HOMEWORK PROBLEMS

- We will be using Python on homework problems this semester.
- Installation instructions appear on the piazza site.
- Homework questions will take the form of [a Jupyter notebook](#), which you can print to PDF and turn in.
- If you get stuck somewhere, post on piazza, so your classmates benefit from your question.
- Computational HW problems are turned in via Dropbox file requests. *Look for link at the top of each homework assignment and include your name in the filename!*

Thinking of what you want to get out of your college education and this course, which of the following is *most* important to you?

- A. Acquiring information (facts, principles, concepts, procedures)
- B. Learning how to use information and knowledge in new situations
- C. Developing lifelong learning skills

All three of these goals are clearly important. However, which of these three goals do you think you can do on our own (say, before class)?

- A. Acquiring information (facts, principles, concepts, procedures)
- B. Learning how to use information and knowledge in new situations
- C. Developing lifelong learning skills

QUESTIONS?

**WHAT DO YOU THINK PHY 481 IS
ABOUT?**

ELECTROMAGNETISM IS THE FOUNDATIONAL FIELD THEORY OF PHYSICS

Think about everything you already know about electromagnetism (it's a lot already!).

Work with a partner to map out the electromagnetism concepts that you know and how they are related to each other.