

Physics 3610
Mechanics, Fall 2009

Instructor: Dr. David Murdock, Bruner 221, [372]-3044 (Office)

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Open office hours!

Meeting Time: MWF, 11:15pm-12:10pm, Br 224.

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

Prerequisites: Phys 2110-2120, Modern Physics, Calculus III, Math Methods in Physics. Everyone is expected to have access to a computer calculation and graphics system like Maple. Help will be provided in using such software.

Course requirements: Problem sets to be given out about every 2 weeks, making about 7 in all; probably there will also be a short project involving computation, i.e. programming. Three exams (including the Final).

Grading: 60% of grade based on the exams. 40% from the problems sets. For the sake of completeness, I will quote percentages for which I will *guarantee* the following grades:

A: 80%–100%, B: 65%–80%, C: 50%–65%, D: 30%–50%.

but I will adjust the cutoffs downward if I see fit!

Attendance: Not required but it will help you to show up! I will provide comments and material to supplement the text and help with the homework.

Course Material: As much of Taylor's book as we can get done this semester. (Probably the first eight chapters.)

The Point of All This: To get a deeper understanding of the law of motion, the methods of solving problems using those laws and their applications; to give you the *mad ninja skillz* necessary to compete in today's physicz hood.

Students with a disability requiring accommodations should contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS). An Accommodation Request (AR) should be completed as soon as possible. The ODS is located in the Roaden University Center, Room 112; phone 372-6119.

Should normal classroom activities be disrupted by a flu outbreak, students will be given new instructions for the course via E-mail.