

Supplemental Instruction (SI) for PHYS 121

SI Leader	Email	SI Session
MG Davis	med151@case.edu	Thursday, 5:30-7PM, Bingham 140
James Gómez Faulk	lxg411@case.edu	Tuesday, 4:30-6:00PM, Rockefeller 303
MG and James		Sunday, 12-1:30PM, Bingham 140

About Us

Hi! My name's MG, and welcome to PHYS 121! I'm a junior majoring in Physics, and this is my third semester SI-ing this course. When I'm not doing physics problems, I like to knit and doodle in my lecture notes. I also write for Case's satire newspaper, *The Athenian*. I know that physics can be frustrating at times, but I hope that the SI Sessions can help make Mechanics a little less chaotic and a little more fun!

Hi and welcome to Physics 121! My name is James Gómez Faulk, and I'm excited to be one of your Physics SIs this semester. I am a first-year Physics and Dance double major with a special interest in astrophysics and contemporary ballet. Outside of these fields, I enjoy various areas of history, knitting, and going to the gym. I hope to see you at the SI sessions this semester!

Purpose of Supplemental Instruction (SI)

Supplemental Instruction (SI) is an academic enhancement program that provides regularly scheduled study sessions for traditionally difficult courses here at Case Western Reserve University. Attending SI sessions provides students an opportunity to actively engage in course material, ask questions, review notes, practice problems, prepare for exams, and learn good study skills and habits in a relaxed environment. SI sessions are facilitated by SI leaders—students who have completed the course and who have been recommended by the course professor. During sessions, SI leaders facilitate learning activities related to recent material covered in the respective course.

SI Sessions

During SI sessions, we'll be going over key concepts from the lectures. The night before each session, we'll send out a handout with a few practice problems related to your lectures and homework questions. In the sessions, we'll work on the problems together, so we'd recommend coming with a friend in the class!

After the session, we'll send out an answer key to those who attended the session. If you are unable to attend a session but want to do the problems anyway, send us an email with the completed handout, and we'll send you the answer key.

A couple days before every exam, there will also be a summary session for exam content. In exam summary sessions, we'll go over some of the most difficult content that we covered in sessions leading up to the exam. These sessions may also be longer than normal, but we won't have time to cover everything that might be on your exam, so you shouldn't use the sessions as your only method of studying.

Expectations

As your SI leaders, we'll be prepared for sessions in every way we can. We'll prepare and send out handouts in advance, show up to the sessions on time, and answer questions to the best of our ability. If you have questions, feel free to email us (at "normal-people hours" preferably) and we'll respond as soon as we can. *Please also keep in mind that we are not TAs*, so we're not able to answer questions about your grades. We also ask that you come to sessions prepared and that you are respectful to us and your classmates.

How to Get the Most from SI

When you come to SI sessions, you'll get the most out of it when you come in prepared to learn. SI sessions are different from lectures- they don't work if the SI leaders are just giving you the answers. The best sessions happen when everybody is talking to each other and asking questions.

Also, SI sessions are a lot more fun when you come with friends. Not only does it make the sessions more fun, it also means that you and your friends can ask each other questions and teach each other.

Logistics

The evening before the scheduled session, we'll send an email with a handout attached. After the session, we'll send the answer sheet to those who attended the session. If we have to cancel or move a session, we will let you know of the change as soon as possible. We may also have a session over Zoom if necessary.

On Sundays, we'll typically have "homework sessions", which is an opportunity for you to work on homework with other students and ask questions. We will not be doing the homework for you, but we'll help you understand the problems and work towards a solution.