

Univ. of Winnipeg Dept. of Physics
Fall 2021

PHYS-3202 Intermediate Mechanics

Lecture Times: MWF 10:30-11:20AM

Room: zoom

Instructor: Dr. Andrew Frey

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Office Phone: please email

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Office Hours: by appointment on zoom

Course Description

This course provides a 3D vector treatment of Newtonian mechanics with an emphasis on conservation principles.

Textbooks

There are two required texts, but the lectures may refer to several others. The required texts are both open access and available through the university library website or the course web page. You may print a copy of these if you wish; a permission form is available on the course web page to show University printing services (when they are open).

- **Required:** *Mechanics and Relativity* by Timon Idema, Sept 2019 ed.
- **Required:** *Variational Principles in Classical Mechanics* by Douglas Cline, 2nd ed.

In addition, some extra reading (from other texts, journal articles, etc) may be assigned.

Topics

We will discuss

- Newton's Laws, Basic Assumptions, Dimensional Analysis
- Linear Motion — Potential Energy — Energy and Momentum Conservation — Friction and Air Resistance — Harmonic Oscillators — Propulsion — Collisions — ODEs in Mechanics
- 3D Motion — Vector Calculus Review — Examples — Conservative Forces — Angular Momentum and Torque — Central Forces — Orbits — Collisions and Cross Sections
- Rotating (Noninertial) Frames — Changing Frames — Centrifugal and Coriolis Forces
- Rigid Body Rotation — Moment of Inertia Tensor — Principal Axes — Rotation Around Axis — Free Rotation — Precession and Nutation — Euler Angles
- Potentials — Spherical Distributions — Potential Expansion — Shape of the Earth — Tides

Not all topics above will be covered equally. Also, some topics may be skipped due to time constraints or taught in different orders.

Teaching Outcomes: By the end of the course, you should have a conceptual and quantitative understanding of the above topics. Through the homework assignments, you should also gain experience with using differential equations, approximation methods, and possibly computational resources in physics.

Assignment Policies

Reading: Reading assignments will be posted on the course web page for each subject (usually several sections per week). You are responsible for keeping up with the reading; material covered in the reading will not necessarily be discussed in the class lectures but may be relevant to assignments.

Homework: Assignments will be posted on the course web page (see above) in PDF format each Wednesday; please let me know if you require alternate delivery. The assignment will then be due at 10:59PM on the listed due date; make sure to mark your solution with your name. See below for submission instructions. Homework solutions will be posted on the course web page as soon as possible after assignments have been collected. Collaboration on the problems is allowed, but each student must write up the solutions independently. Late assignments will **not** be accepted without prior permission from the instructor.

Assignment Submission Instructions: All assignments should be uploaded as PDF or Word document files to this link: <https://uwcloud.uwinnipeg.ca/s/wxqoYpEEa8WT2LX> (also listed on the course homepage). Note that you will not be able to see or edit your submission, so you must resubmit the whole file if you need to make changes. Assignment PDF files may be black-and-white scans (preferred) or photographs of a written hardcopy or prepared with L^AT_EX or other software. If you do not have access to a scanner, there are apps available for Apple and Android mobile devices; if you need to submit photographs, they *must* be converted to PDF. L^AT_EX submissions should be in PDF format. Alternately, you may type your assignment with a word processor and *must* use an equation editor for mathematics; you *must* submit your work in PDF format. Please label your files with your first initial, last name, and assignment number (for example, AFrey_hw1.pdf); if you need to break your assignment into multiple parts, label them in order with lower case letters (AFrey_hw1a.pdf, AFrey_hw1b.pdf, etc). You will each receive via email a personalized link to a shared folder where I will return your marked assignments. **Only PDF files will be accepted for all assignments.**

Course Project: In the second half of the semester, you will (individually) watch the movie *Gravity* (directed by Alfonso Cuarón), which is available to stream for free through the UWinnipeg library. For the project, you will answer questions about how topics discussed in this course appear in the movie and list mistakes the movie makes about classical mechanics. You will receive detailed instructions following the midterm test. If you are unable to watch this movie (due to technological accessibility issues, for religious reasons, or otherwise), please contact me for accommodation before the midterm.

Tests and Exams: No electronic equipment is allowed during either the midterm test or the final exam, except at the discretion of the instructor. The formats of the term test and final exam are to be determined, and detailed instructions (including file format and submission) for each will be provided prior to their scheduled dates.

Assignment Organization: Your homework and exam solutions should be written (or typed) neatly with steps explained *as if you were writing a research paper or lab report*. Not all algebra need be shown if the steps are explained in words; however, showing your work may improve your credit if you make a mistake. Homework that is not neatly organized and written will not be graded and will be given **zero credit** (one warning will be allowed).

Regrading: If you feel that there is a mistake in grading, I will regrade each problem in question completely. It is possible that newly discovered mistakes will reduce your credit. Please also see the section on appeals.

Religious Holidays: You may choose not to attend class or write tests/examinations on holy days of your religion, but you must notify me at least two weeks in advance. If so, I will provide the opportunity to make up work without penalty. A list of religious holidays can be found in the 2021-22 Undergraduate Academic Calendar.

Evaluation

Grades: Course grades will be comprised of the following components:

- Homework Assignments: 40%
- Midterm Test: 15%
- Class Project: 15%
- Final Exam: 30%

Guidelines for the assignment of numerical percentage grades to letter grades are as follows:

- A+ = 95-100%
- A = 87-94%
- A- = 80-86%
- B+ = 74-79%
- B = 67-73%
- C+ = 61-66%
- C = 53-60%
- D = 50-52%
- F = 0-49%

Note that these are guidelines. Final grades shall be approved by the Department Review Committee and may be subject to change.

Exam & Other Important Dates: Dates to note include

- First Lecture: Sept 8, 2021
- *Truth & Reconciliation Day: Sept 30, 2021*
- Fall Reading Week: Oct 10-16, 2021
- Midterm Test: mid-late Oct, 2021
- *Remembrance Day: Nov 11, 2021*
- Voluntary Withdrawal Date: Nov 16, 2021 (without academic penalty)
- Last Lecture: Dec 6, 2021
- Course Project Due: To be announced
- Final Exam: To be announced by university

Exceptional Circumstances: A permitted or necessary change in mode of delivery may require adjustments to important aspects of this course outline, like class schedule and the number, nature, and weighting of assignments and/or exams. When it is necessary to cancel a class due to exceptional circumstances, every effort will be made to inform students via UWinnipeg email.

Regulations, Policies, and Academic Integrity: Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the “Regulations and Policies” found in the University Academic Calendar at: <https://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/regulationsandpolicies.pdf>. Particular attention should be given to sub-sections 8 (“Student Discipline”), 9 (“Senate Appeals”), and 10 (“Grade Appeals”).

Please note the importance of maintaining academic integrity, and the potential consequences of engaging in plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic misconduct.

Even “unintentional” plagiarism, as described in the UW Library video tutorial “Avoiding Plagiarism” (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UvFdxRU9a8g>) is a form of academic misconduct.

Similarly, uploading essays and other assignments to essay vendor or trader sites (filesharing sites that are known providers of essays for use by others who submit them to instructors as their own work) is a form of misconduct, as it involves “aiding and abetting” plagiarism. More detailed information can be found here: *Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures*: <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/policies/academic-misconduct-policy.pdf> and <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/policies/academic-misconduct-procedures.pdf>.

Miscellaneous

Emails: The primary method of email communication for this course will be through your official university email address. Please check that account regularly. However, if you contact me from a different email account, I may respond to that account. I will notify you through your university email and/or by announcement in class if I also need to communicate through your listed “preferred” email accounts.

Comments: I welcome feedback and comments on the course. If you are more comfortable commenting anonymously, please upload a plain text file to the homework upload link (PDF and word documents are ok but may contain information that identifies you).

Copyright and Intellectual Property: Course materials are owned by the instructor who developed them. Examples of such materials are course outlines, assignment descriptions, lecture notes, test questions, and presentation slides. Students who upload these materials to filesharing sites, or in any other way share these materials with others outside the class without prior permission of the instructor/presenter, are in violation of copyright law and University policy.

Students must also seek prior permission of the instructor/presenter before, for example, photographing, recording, or taking screenshots of slides, presentations, lectures, and notes on the board (or computer).

Students found to be in violation of an instructor's intellectual property rights could face serious consequences pursuant to the Academic Misconduct or Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Accessibility Services: Students with documented disabilities, temporary or chronic medical conditions, requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams or during lectures/laboratories are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 204-786-9771 or <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility-services> to discuss appropriate options. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential.

Research Ethics: Students who plan to conduct research interviews, focus groups, surveys, or any other method of collecting data from any person, even a family member, must obtain the approval of the appropriate ethics committee before commencing data collection. Exceptions are research activities in class as a learning exercise. See <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/research/human-ethics.html> for submission requirements and deadlines.

Respectful Learning Environment: Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner on campus and in the learning environment irrespective of platform being used. Behaviour, communication, or acts that are inconsistent with a number of UW policies (e.g. *Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy* <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect/respect-policy.html>, *Acceptable Use of Information Technology Policy* <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/policies/acceptable-use-of-information-technology-policy.pdf>) could be considered "non-academic" misconduct. More detailed information can be found here: *Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures*: <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/student-non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf> and <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/student-non-academic-misconduct-procedures.pdf>.

Privacy: Students are reminded to know their rights in relation to the collecting of personal data by the University (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/admissions-privacy-notice.html>), especially if Zoom is being used for remote teaching (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/zoom-privacy-notice.html>) and testing/proctoring (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/zoom-test-and-exam-proctoring.html>).

Zoom Etiquette and Privacy: This course will be conducted using Zoom software. As basic etiquette, please leave your microphone muted unless you are speaking. Since it can be difficult for me to see the participant list and chat window while I am screen sharing, please unmute and speak to ask any immediate questions. To help create a sense of community in our class, please turn on your video; you should find a space so anything visible in the background respects your privacy.