Physical Science 304 — Spring 1999

Unique Number 54080: TTh 2–4 p.m., RLM 8.314
Unique Number 54090: TTh 4–6 p.m., RLM 8.314

Instructor: Ilian Iliev, office: RLM 9.222, E-mail: `iliev@astro.as.utexas.edu`
phone number: 471–7487 (office)
Office Hour: W 10–11:00 a.m. (or by appointment)

Required Materials:
1. *Motion and Matter* Lab Manual. It has been updated recently, so do not use old copies!
2. *Conceptual Physics* (8th edition) by P. G. Hewitt. (If you have the old, 7th edition always check if the problems and their numbers match with the 8th edition, many of them don't match!)
3. 1″ 3-ring binder (to put the lab manual and other materials for the course in).
4. Calculator with basic scientific functions.

Class Philosophy: This class is designed as a self-discovery course, whose guiding principle is that experience is the best teacher. This places the responsibility for gaining experience—and thereby learning the material—on you, the student. During class you will perform the activities detailed in the laboratory manual. As instructor, my role is is to ensure that you understand the activities by asking questions, and to provide any necessary guidance. Don't hesitate to ask me questions whenever they arise. The instructions in the lab manual are not always clear, so when in doubt what is required, ask me!

Attendance: In contrast to lecture courses, class attendance is MANDATORY. A maximum of two absences without legitimate excuse (i.e. with a document from a doctor, etc.) will be allowed without penalty. However, you it is still your responsibility to catch up with the class. Each additional absence will result in a 5% reduction of your semester grade. It is also expected that you remain the entire class period. Leaving significantly early and arriving significantly late will count as an absence.

Grading:

Homework	20%
Quizzes	20%
Lab Books and Participation	10%
Midterms	20% (10% each)
Final Exam	30%

Homework: Approximately ten homework problems will be assigned for each unit and will be accepted until the due date, typically a week after it is assigned. There will be about six assignments overall for the semester. The homework problems will be drawn from the text and the lab manual. I will drop the lowest homework score for the final grade.

Quizzes: You will have a short quiz (2–3 questions) at the beginning of some class periods. Quiz questions will be taken from the reading assignments and current lab topics. Quizzes cannot be made up if you arrive after the quiz has been given. I will drop the lowest quiz score for the final grade.

Lab Books: After completing each unit in the lab manual you have a week to turn these pages to me. I will grade several questions chosen pseudo-randomly from the lab.

Late Work: Absolutely no late work will be accepted. Always keep the deadlines set. All work will be due a week after it is assigned, unless otherwise noted.

Mid-Terms: There will be two mid-term exams. There will be no make-up tests. If you miss a test **with a legitimate excuse**, the final exam grade will be substituted for that test grade and averaged as indicated above. The test questions are going to be short answer/calculation or multiple choice, and will be given in class. You must bring your own No. 2 pencil, ruler, calculator, and protractor. No sharing will be allowed. Exams (but not quizzes!) are **open book**, so you can bring your book, notes, etc. I will give you a notice when the test is going to be at least two weeks in advance.

Final Exam: There will be a comprehensive final exam. The final will have a format similar to the mid-terms. See the university schedule for the final exam time and place.

Food and Drink: Food and drinks **are not allowed** in the laboratory area.

Cheating: Cheating is handing in any work that is not your own. You will take data with your lab partners and you may consult your lab partners about calculations, but all of the work must be done by you. You should also not alter your data (there is no need for this). If you are caught cheating you will fail the course and possibly suffer other penalties. There is *no* justification for cheating in this course!