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CONTACT INFORMATION
Dr. Michael C. Holcomb
Office: VIN 123
Phone: 325.486.6787
Email: michael.holcomb@angelo.edu
Webpage: www.mcholcomb.com/teaching

Office Hours
Monday 10:00am–12:00pm
Tuesday 2:00pm–4:00pm
Wednesday 10:00am–12:00pm
Thursday 2:00pm–4:00pm
Friday 10:00am–12:00pm
Also available by appointment

REQUIRED MATERIALS
• TopHat.com access - Purchase access through the ASU Bookstore.
COURSE OVERVIEW

This course will cover electric fields, magnetic fields, circuits, electromagnetic waves, optics, and topics from modern physics, time permitting.

This course is intended to acquaint students with the scientific method and basic laws of physics, to help students develop a better understanding of physical science in general and develop reasoning skills and strategies to prepare them for other upper-division science classes. To this end, the course will emphasize a mix of conceptual understanding and standard end-of chapter homework solving skills.

Expected Learning Outcomes

The expected learning outcomes for the course, listed below, will be assessed through performance on guided classroom discussions, homework, and embedded questions within the in-class exams.

• Be able to apply scientific reasoning and critical thinking to the solution of problems.
• Gain an understanding of fundamental principles, generalizations, and formulae.
• Develop and demonstrate technical knowledge of major topics outlined in the course overview.

COURSE COMPONENTS

Lecture & Participation

We will use TopHat this semester during lecture to take attendance, administer quizzes, and complete conceptual checkpoints that will contribute to your participation grade in the course. TopHat access can be purchased through the ASU Bookstore.

Once access has been purchased, you must register yourself at www.TopHat.com. Use both your legal name and your ASU Campus ID number (ex: 87654321) when setting up your account. The course code is 073632.

Attendance is mandatory and will be taken daily. Attendance will directly contribute to your participation grade in the course. A spirit of honesty will be maintained in the attendance policy. Note that
Lecture Preparation
You are expected to bring the assigned texts, paper for notes, and a suitable writing utensil (preferably a pencil with an eraser), a scientific calculator, and your ASU Student ID with you to every class meeting. You will likely find it helpful to read ahead in the textbook before each class.

Additionally, conceptual checkpoints are an integrated part of lecture and will be administered unannounced using TopHat. These checkpoints will only be graded for completion and will sometimes be used as the subject of guided class discussion. Conceptual checkpoints will not have makeup opportunities.

Please thoroughly read the section of this syllabus regarding classroom etiquette for further information on expectations for lecture attendance.

Homework
Homework will be assigned and graded weekly. You will be expected to solve homework neatly on standard letter sized notebook, graph, or printer paper that will be turned in for grading at the beginning of class on the date it is due. Late homework will only be accepted in the case of extenuating circumstances at the lecturer’s discretion.

Even though the homework is weighted lightly in your final grade, it is not in any way optional; it is crucial for your understanding of the course material. Homework will be made available before the material is covered in lecture and will be due on the posted date before the exam covering that material.

Exams
Three (3) in-class exams (also called midterms) will be administered as scheduled. No makeup exams will be given, so please plan accordingly. All exams will be given in our normal classroom. Please see the course calendar on the last page of this syllabus for scheduled exam dates and anticipated content.
**CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE**

Attending lecture is mandatory. You are considered both advised and responsible for anything discussed during lecture. Leaving lecture early or arriving late is considered both rude and distracting. If you have an expected reason to depart early, please inform the lecturer at the beginning of class and sit in a convenient location for leaving without disturbing the class.

All students are expected to be respectful of their peers during lecture by not becoming a distraction. If you become a distraction to other students, then you will be dismissed from class for that day. Some actions, including but not limited to the following, will result in you being considered a distraction to your peers: repeatedly arriving late, reading unrelated material, using your cell phone in any way outside of approved exercises, visiting with your neighbor, sleeping, eating, “vaping,” and the use of any and all tobacco products.

No laptops or any other electronic devices are allowed in class unless the need for such a device for reason of a disability is documented by Student Disability Services.

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**GRADING POLICIES**

The following scores will be recorded during the course of the semester: Participation, Homework, Exam 1, Exam 2, Exam 3, Final Exam. The course grade will be the weighted average of Participation at 10%, Homework at 10%, and Exams at 20% each.

**How your final course grade is weighted:**

There are no makeup exams; however, the final exam score can replace the lowest midterm. In other words, the four highest scores from Exam 1, Exam 2, Exam 3, Final Exam, and Final Exam will be considered for the course grade.

Your letter grade will be determined on the following scale: F (≤49), D (50-59), C (60-74), B (75-89), A (90-100).

**Incomplete Grade Policy**

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.
INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT  *(Adapted from Yale Center for Teaching and Learning)*

**Civility and Respect**
Our university supports and wants to foster a civil, respectful, and open-minded climate so that all of us can live and work in an environment free of harassment, bias-motivated behaviors, unfair treatment, and fear. The university expects all members of our community to refrain from actions or behaviors that intimidate, humiliate, or demean persons or groups or that undermine their security or self-esteem based on traits related to race, ethnicity, country of origin, religion, gender identity/expression, sexual orientation, age, or physical or mental ability, including learning and/or developmental disabilities and past/present history of mental disorder or other category protected by state or federal law.

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**
Angelo State University is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website at [www.angelo.edu/ada](http://www.angelo.edu/ada).

**Point of Contact**

**Director of Student Disability Services**
Dallas A. Swafford
Email: dallas.swafford@angelo.edu

**Office**
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112
Office Email: ada@angelo.edu
Office Phone: 325.942.2047
Title IX at Angelo State University

All community members should enjoy an environment free of any form of harassment, sexual misconduct, discrimination, or intimate partner violence. The university prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking.

Students are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU's Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator. You may also file a report online 24/7 at www.angelo.edu/incident-form.

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

Point of Contact

Director of Title IX Compliance and Title IX Coordinator
Michelle Boone, J.D.
Email: michelle.boone@angelo.edu
Office
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
Office Phone: 325.942.2022
Report an incident: www.angelo.edu/incident-form

Note from Dr. Holcomb: As a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and am obligated to report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325.942.2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325.486.6345), or the University Health Clinic (325.942.2171).

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is a core institutional value at Angelo State University. It means, among other things, truth in presentation, diligence and precision in citing works and ideas we have used, and acknowledging our collaborations with others. In view of our commitment to maintaining the highest standards of academic integrity, the ASU Code of Conduct and Academic Integrity policy specifically prohibits the following forms of behavior:
• Pay special attention to examples worked in class.
• Study your notes.
• Read the material in the text before we cover it in class.
• Begin all homework assignments as soon as possible. Don’t get behind or wait until just before an exam to begin.
• Make use of the free in-person and online tutoring services available through the Tutoring Center.
• Supplemental Instruction (SI) sessions for some classes are offered through the campus Tutoring Center. These sessions can help you review difficult concepts as a group.
• If you are stuck, come by my office with questions during office hours or make an appointment to meet at another time.
• Once you can work through a problem with your notes, book, study group, etc., be sure you can rework it entirely on your own.
• Don’t “blow off” any exam just because there is a dropped score. The purpose of the dropped score is in case of illness or other extenuating circumstances.

**Integrity policy** in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and representing it as one's own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas, giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you better understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

**Copyright Policy**

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

**Integrity policy** in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and representing it as one's own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

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**Copyright Policy**

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.
Our tentative course calendar is below. I reserve the right to change this calendar as needed; however, I will inform you in class and via email in advance of any changes.

Remember to check our Blackboard class page regularly for assigned readings and homework. Also remember to check your university email (RamMail) account regularly for class updates and other important university correspondence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Jan 13  | **Monday, Jan 13:** First class meeting  
**Thursday, Jan 16:** Last day to make schedule changes for this term |
| Jan 20  | **Monday, Jan 20:** No Class (Martin Luther King Jr. Day) |
| Jan 27  | **Thursday, Jan 30:** Drops and withdrawals will now be recorded on transcripts |
| Feb 03  | |
| Feb 10  | **Friday, Feb 14:** EXAM 1 (Ch. 18–21) |
| Feb 17  | |
| Feb 24  | |
| Mar 02  | **Friday, Mar 06:** EXAM 2 (Ch. 22–24) |
| Mar 09  | No Classes (Spring Break) |
| Mar 16  | |
| Mar 23  | **Thursday, Mar 26:** Last day to drop or withdraw for this term |
| Mar 30  | |
| Apr 06  | |
| Apr 13  | **Friday, Apr 17:** EXAM 3 (Ch. 25–27) |
| Apr 20  | |
| Apr 27  | **Monday, Apr 27:** Lab finals begin (through May 01)  
**Friday, May 01:** Last class meeting |
| FINALS  | **Wednesday, May 06:** FINAL EXAM, 8:00am–10:00am in VIN 158 |
Online Course Transition Addendum:

In response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Angelo State University has decided to extend spring break for its students one additional week (March 16-20) and will move all classes online for the remainder of the spring semester. This decision has been made out of continued concern for the health and safety of our faculty, staff, and students.

For this course (PHYS 1302-020), the transition to online will necessitate the following updates to our syllabus:

**Office Hours:**

I will no longer be offering in-person office hours or appointments in my physical office, VIN 123; however, I will continue to hold regular office hours and offer one-on-one appointments via Blackboard Collaborate.

**Lecture & Participation:**

Lecture will still be offered synchronously. At our regularly scheduled lecture time (MWF 0900-0950), I will be offering a verbal lecture via Blackboard Collaborate. All students will have access to log in through the Blackboard course and I will use the screen share feature in place of the whiteboard. This setup will allow us to continue to use TopHat to monitor attendance and participation (i.e. conceptual checkpoints).

In addition to the synchronous lecture, asynchronous lecture material will be offered for those that cannot log in at the regularly scheduled time. A recording of the synchronous lecture and a PDF version of what I write on my screen will be available for download and review. The recording will either be offered as a full recording of the lecture or as several shorter segments divided by topic.

My recommendation is that everyone participate in the synchronous lecture and use the asynchronous materials to review and refresh as necessary. Following this recommendation will help to maintain the schedule and feel of the course that you have grown accustomed to; however, I understand that some people may be unable due to personal preference (i.e. learning style), external commitments, or access to technology (i.e. computer, high speed internet, etc.).

**Homework:**

Homework will continue to be assigned and graded; however, will no longer be physically submitted for grading. Instead of physically turning your work, you will need to scan a copy of your completed homework and submit via Gradescope. If you do not have access to a scanner, there is an app called Microsoft Lens which is available for smartphones or tablets that will allow you to use your device's camera to capture a PDF “scan” that you can
submit. As students of Angelo State University, you have access to both Gradescope and Microsoft Lens (iOS, Android, Windows) at no additional cost.

If you are student who does not have access to a scanner, tablet, or smartphone, please email me and we will figure something out.

**Exams:**

Exams will now all be administered as open-note and open-book take-home exams. This means that the exams will be longer and more comprehensive, but the formatting you have grown accustomed to will be maintained. You will be given one (1) week to complete each exam. To account for the fact that I will not be present to answer questions that you may have, you will be permitted to submit exams for what we will call early-evaluation.

If submitted for early-evaluation, I will briefly look through the exam and mark all questions which were answered incorrectly, and then return the marked exam to you so that you may reattempt the exam. Early-evaluation will not include a full grading of the exam, meaning that partial credit will not be assigned or identified, and directional feedback may or may not be given at my discretion. The number of early-evaluations will be part-dependent as follows:

- Part 1 (Conceptual): One (1) Early-Evaluations Permitted
- Part 2 (Problem Solving): Three (3) Early-Evaluations Permitted
- Bonus: Zero (0) Early-Evaluations Permitted

A spirit of honesty will be maintained and I will expect you to follow the guidelines outlined on the front page of each take-home exam. They will be open-note and open-book; however, you are expected to refrain from using internet resources or copying the work of your peers, as would be expected of any in-class exam.

**Course Calendar:**

Coverage will be affected by the additional week of spring break and the mandated transition of this course to being administered online. I have updated the course calendar and reserve the right to further adjust the calendar as needed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of</th>
<th>Events</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| January 13th | Monday, Jan 13: First class meeting  
Thursday, Jan 16: Last day to make schedule changes this term | Electric Charge and Electric Fields          | 18       |
| January 20th | Monday, Jan 20: No Class  
(Martin Luther King Jr. Day)  
Thursday, Jan 30: Drops and withdrawals will now be recorded on transcripts | Electric Potential and Electric Field         | 19       |
<p>| January 27th | Thursday, Jan 30: Drops and withdrawals will now be recorded on transcripts | Electric Current, Resistance, and Ohm’s Law  | 20       |
| February 3rd |                                                        | Circuits and DC Instruments                   | 21       |
| February 10th | Friday, Feb 14: EXAM 1 (Ch. 18–21)                                | Magnetism                                     | 22       |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 17th</td>
<td>Magnetism and Electromagnetic Induction</td>
<td>22-23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 24th</td>
<td>Electromagnetic Induction and Electromagnetic Waves</td>
<td>23-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2nd</td>
<td>Electromagnetic Waves</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 9th</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 16th</td>
<td>Spring Break Extension</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>March 23rd</td>
<td>EXAM 2 (Ch. 22–24) Thursday, Mar 26: Last day to drop or withdraw this term</td>
<td>Geometric Optics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 30th</td>
<td>Vision and Optical Instruments</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 6th</td>
<td>Wave Optics</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 13th</td>
<td>EXAM 3 (Ch. 25–27)</td>
<td>Quantum Physics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 20th</td>
<td>Atomic Physics</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 27th</td>
<td>Monday, Apr 27: Lab finals begin (through May 01) Friday, May 01: Last class meeting</td>
<td>Nuclear Physics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Final Exam Wednesday, May 06, 08:00am–10:00am --- Remotely Administered Friday 1st – Thursday 7th**