Introduction to Physical Science Lab PS 1115  
Fall 2020

**Description**  
This course serves as a laboratory introduction to the Physical Sciences, and is intended to accompany the Physical Science 1315 course.

**Time and Location**  
VIN 155  
01Z M 1:00 – 2:50 Shields  
02Z W 1:00 – 2:50 Bixler  
03Z W 1:00 – 2:50 Shields  
04Z R 1:00 – 2:50 Shields

**Instructors Information**  
Dr. David Bixler VIN 115  
david.bixler@angelo.edu

Mr. Stephen Shields VIN 135  
Stephen.Shields@angelo.edu

**Student Learning Outcomes**  
Upon completion of PS 1115 Laboratory, the student will understand scientific reasoning in the natural sciences, and will have demonstrated technical and analytical skills by engaging in quantitative laboratory experimentation. Experiments will be done in groups of two to three students. Learning outcomes will be assessed using written work including lab reports and exams.

**Course Materials**  
No required lab manual.  
You will be required to bring a printed copy of labs.  
Calculator with scientific notation capability. Each student is required to bring his/her own calculator to lab every week!  
Pencil or pen. Although pens are allowed, excessive mark outs may be counted as wrong answers.  
You will not be allowed to enter the lab if you do not have a face covering and a face shield. We will be providing you with your own personal face shield to use in this class. Face shields are required when working in groups.

**Attendance Policy**
There are no make-ups for missed lab meetings or for any quizzes administered during those meetings. If you must miss a lab due to University business, you may request to attend another lab meeting. These arrangements must be made in advance. Students without advance arrangements approved by all instructors will not be allowed to attend any alternate section of lab. Attendance will be taken at each lab meeting. There are no make-ups for lab exams. Please refer to the lab schedule for the exam dates. For very special and unavoidable circumstances, a student may request special arrangements to take an exam early. Such requests will be considered on an individual basis by the instructor, and must be made no later than one week prior to the date of the scheduled exam.

**Classroom Conduct**
All students are expected to either be on time and prepared to work in-person, or if working remotely, submit a completed lab by the due date. Each student will be required to submit individual work during each lab meeting for grade evaluation; answers to questions should always be in your own words. Do not copy essay answers from each other. No student will be given credit for any copied answers. The full attention and participation of every student in class is expected. Food, candy, gum, drinks, or tobacco are not allowed in the laboratory at any time. No electronic devices other than calculators may be used in the lab at any time (this means no cell phones, pagers, music players, etc.). You may not use a mobile phone as your calculator during exams. Non-lab related phone use will be considered a disturbance and will not be allowed.

**Assessment**
Daily Grade (50%): The daily grade includes the Lab Experience Hand-In Page (handed in each lab meeting), attendance (recorded at each lab meeting), and class participation. Lab Exams (50%): There will be two lab exams during the semester. Each exam will count for 25% of the overall lab grade.

**Communication**
I will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

**Written communication via email:** All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails to faculty, include the course name and section number in your subject line.

**Virtual communication:** Office hours and/or advising may be done with the assistance of the telephone, Collaborate, Skype, etc.

**General Policies Related to This Course**
All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:
Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject to disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the university’s Statement of Academic Integrity.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

ASU 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, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford

Director of Student Disability Services

Office of Student Affairs

325-942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu

Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

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.
Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off 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 understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

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.

Title IX at Angelo State University

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. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance.

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 at:

Michelle Boone, J.D.
Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
325-942-2022
michelle.boone@angelo.edu

You may also file a report online 24/7 at www.angelo.edu/incident-form.
If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the University Health Clinic and Counseling Center at 325-942-2173 or the ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345.

For more information about Title IX in general you may visit www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

**Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students**

As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory [Facial Covering Policy](#) to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.

**Modifications to the Syllabus**

This syllabus, including grade evaluation and course schedule, is subject to modification. In particular, the COVID-19 pandemic may require significant changes in course delivery and content on potentially short notice.
## Course Schedule

Note: Subject to change. All due date/times are in central time zone.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Laboratory exercise</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/17</td>
<td>Scientific Thinking: In-person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/24</td>
<td>Distance, Velocity, Acceleration: In-person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/31</td>
<td>Forces and Newton’s Law: Online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/7</td>
<td><strong>No Class</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/14</td>
<td>Sink and Float: In-person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/21</td>
<td>Hot Stuff Demo: In-person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/28</td>
<td><strong>Midterm Exam</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/5</td>
<td>Ohm’s Law: Online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/12</td>
<td>Earth’s Magnetic Field: Online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/19</td>
<td>Lenses and Mirrors: In-person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/26</td>
<td>Visible Spectrum: Online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/2</td>
<td>Radioactivity: In-person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/9</td>
<td><strong>Final Exam</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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i [https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/](https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/)

ii [https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/](https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/)

iii [https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php](https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php)

iv [https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/](https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/)

v [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures)


vii [https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php](https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php)

viii [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of)

ix [https://www.angelo.edu/services/title-ix/](https://www.angelo.edu/services/title-ix/)