PHYS 109 Introductory Physics
Course Syllabus
Fall 2008

Instructor: Robert Hermann email: Robert.Hermann@cune.edu
Phone: 7447 Office Hours: MWF 8:30 – 9:20 am; MW 2:10-3:00 pm; R 10:00 – 12:00
Office: Science 204 and by appointment (or just stop by and find me)

Calculator (Required in Lab, useful in lecture. Cell phone calculators will not be permitted on tests.)

Course Info: Credit Hours: 3
Lecture: Monday, Wednesday 11:10 am - 12:00 pm in Science 107
Lab: Monday 7-9 pm; Tuesday 10:10 am -12:00 pm or 1:10 pm-3:00 pm in Science 215

Description: An introduction to the concepts of physics used to understand and explain the sensibleness of nature, particle and wave ideas, theories that explain everyday phenomena. Not open to students who have had a year of high school physics.

Objectives: In this course we will learn to recognize and appreciate the order underlying the behavior of God's creation. These physical principles can be applied to help understand how the world works in a huge variety of situations, from the everyday to the exotic. By using the mathematical form of these principles, we can obtain very precise predictions of how objects will behave. In this course we will look at how and why things move, in terms of forces and energy; we will look at light -- how it works and what it tells us about the world; and we will investigate new discoveries about the world of the very small.

Attendance: You are expected to be in class, and you are responsible for the material covered in each class and any work assigned or collected in each class. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. If you are late to class it is your responsibility to see me immediately after class and remove the absence. As many as three absences (excused or unexcused) will not affect your grade; each unexcused absence above three will deduct 20% from your attendance grade. Being more than 10 minutes late counts as an absence. If you come less than 10 minutes late, it is your responsibility to make sure the instructor records you as present. You may not pass this course if you have eight or more absences. You are allowed two absences from lab with no penalty (the lowest two lab scores will be dropped). You may not pass this course if you miss more than four labs.

Late Work: Late assignments may be turned in up till the day of the exam over the material for a maximum of 50%. Late quizzes may not be made up. Tests must be made up within seven days of the original test date. Missed labs will not be made up. Please notify me about absences beforehand if possible.

Academic Dishonesty: You are expected to do your own work. Copying off another’s work or allowing another to copy your work will result in at least a zero for the work, or possibly a failing grade for the course. Examples of the dishonesty will be kept on file and made available to other instructors.

Grading: The semester grade will be based on a percentage system, with letter cutoffs at 90%, 80%, 70% and 60%. The top and bottom 2% in a division will be a + or -. The final percentage will be based on:

Tests (50%), Homework and Quizzes (20%), Labs (20%) and Attendance (10%).

Since this is a laboratory course, a score of better than 60% on the lab is required to pass the course.

ADA Statement: Students with a documented disability, who need reasonable accommodations, should contact ADA & Academic Support. Students should also notify their instructors immediately about any disability-related academic needs they may have. To contact the ADA & Academic Support Director, Tanya Jarchow, please call 402.643.7377 or 800.535.5494 ext. 7377 or email Tanya.Jarchow@cune.edu.

Notice: This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor in order to accommodate institutional, instructional and/or student needs.