

## Cal Poly Pomona, Physics 121L– FALL 2008

Instructor: Dr. Nina Abramzon	email:nabramzon@csupomona.edu
Office: Building 8 Room 224	Phone: 869-4021
Office Hours: Mon, Wed 11:00-12:00 , or by appointment	
Text: 121 Lab Manual	
Class web page: <a href="http://www.csupomona.edu/~nabramzon/courses.htm">http://www.csupomona.edu/~nabramzon/courses.htm</a>	

**Course Description:** Laboratory to accompany General Physics lecture series

**Corequisites:** To be taken concurrently with PHY 121

**What This Course Should Accomplish:** The primary goal of this course is to convey physical concepts through experiments while developing critical-thinking and experimental skills. In addition the course will teach you how to report results in a scientific way, and how to work in a group.

**Grading:**

Weekly Lab Reports 30%  
Quizzes 65%  
In Lab evaluation 5%

\*Note: **One missed lab will result in a letter grade reduction. Two or more missed labs will result in a grade of “F”.** It will be possible for you to make up one missed lab. The make-up lab period is at the end of the semester.

**Weekly Lab Reports:** **At the end of each Lab period** you will give me a report, which will include:

- 1) **Abstract:** Briefly describe what you were trying to measure and whether your measurement managed to agree with the expectations. The abstract should be three or four sentences long.
- 2) **Tables of data:** including units, as well as a caption describing what the data represents.
- 3) **Graphs:** be sure the graph includes a title and that your axes are labeled and include units
- 4) **Relevant calculations**
- 5) **Answers to the questions** (those in your lab manual and/or supplemental questions given by the instructor)

I will try to return lab reports during the lab period, however, if there is not enough time for me to grade all of the reports, they will be available in my office on the following day. Lab reports will receive either a check (v) or a minus (-). Letter grades will not be given on lab reports.

**Quizzes:** Before we begin each lab, there will be a short lab quiz on the preparatory reading and/or the previous week's work. You should keep all of your lab notes, data, results, written summaries and reports in a notebook or a folder. **It is to your advantage to keep your notes as well organized as possible because they may be used during the weekly quizzes. The lab manual cannot be used during the quiz.**

**In Lab evaluation** You must take an active role in the performance of each experiment. The participation component of your grade reflects not your attendance but your preparation, efficient use of the lab time, hands-on involvement in the experiments, etc. If you finish an experiment early, you should proceed to data analysis (a timely chance to catch errors!).

*Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability may contact me privately to discuss your specific needs, or may contact Disable Student Services at 909-869-3333 in room 126 of the University Library to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented*