SUNY Geneseo
Department of Physics and Astronomy
Class: TR 11:00 am; ISC 136
Web: https://tildesites.geneseo.edu/~pogo

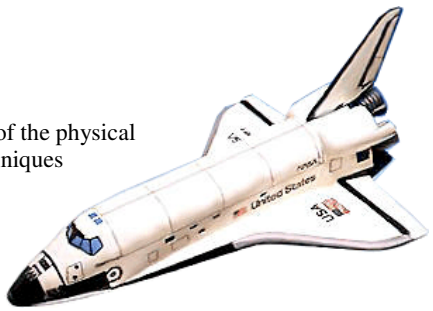
Online Office Hours:
MTWR 8:30-9:20; MW 9:30-10:20; T 2:00-2:50
(https://discord.gg/GjkWREU)

Dr. Pogo
Office: ISC 228D
pogo@geneseo.edu

# General Physics I

(Phys 113-01)

# Spring 2026



**What am I doing here?** "Physics" is a description (not an explanation) of the behavior of the physical world around us. In this course you will learn some of the definitions, concepts, and techniques of physics. You will practice what you have learned by *solving physics problems* on homework assignments, quizzes, and exams. Seriously, the only way to learn physics is to do physics. At the end of this course, you should be able to apply the basic principles of classical mechanics (e.g., force, energy, and momentum) to solve a variety of problems (not just limited to the types we do in class).

**What if I'm confused?** Your textbook, *Physics* (any edition) by Cutnell & Johnson, provides many examples and hints for solving problems. The Physics Learning Center (ISC 233) may also be available for help when you are stuck. In addition, I will be happy to answer your questions (but not to do your homework for you) during the office hours listed above, or at any other mutually convenient time.

**I want an 'A'!** I want you to get an 'A', too! Your grade in this course will be based on your homework grades, quizzes, and exams (including a comprehensive final).

Homework: You will submit your weekly homework using the CAPA system on the internet. CAPA homework is generally due **before** 8 am on the day indicated (see back). You may discuss the assignments with other students, **but you are responsible for doing your own work**.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be given at 11:00:00 am on every class day when an assignment is due. These quizzes are open notebook, and will require you to *symbolically copy* a homework solution for a problem from your paper homework journal. I may drop your lowest quiz score when computing your final grade, depending on your circumstances and your choices. Due to oddities in the College's schedule, quizzes 5 and 6 will still be in class on Thursdays, even though you have an extension until Friday for the corresponding assignments. Note also that Assignments 12 and 13 (with their quizzes) are due on Tuesdays, not Thursdays.

Exams: You will take in-class exams using the CAPA system. You are required to bring a laptop to exams with a battery sufficiently charged to last the full 75 minutes. Exams will require you to answer conceptual questions and to solve problems which I will design. There are 4 exams, including the final. The exams are scheduled as follows.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Exam #1 | Tuesday, February 17, 2026 | Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4a |
| Exam #2 | Tuesday, March 24, 2026 | Chapters 4, 5, and 6, 7 |
| Exam #3 | Tuesday, April 21, 2026 | Chapters 7, 8, and 9 |
| Exam #4 | Tuesday, May 12, 2026 (noon – 2:30 pm) | Chapters 1 - 13 |

If, for some non-trivial, documented reason, you are unable to take an exam at the scheduled time, I *may* allow you to take a make-up exam; however, you must contact me at least 1 week *prior* to the exam date. Rescheduling is *your* responsibility, not mine!

Grades: Final grades will be computed as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| CAPA Assignments | 20% (total for all 14 assignments) |
| Quizzes | 13% (total for all 13 quizzes) |
| Use of Office Hours | 4% (at least 1 relevant visit in 2 different calendar months) |
| Exams #1, 2, 3, and 4 | 63% total; the final (#4) is worth twice as much as the others |

**What is my responsibility?** You are expected to own a physical (paper) text book. You must attend and participate in class (and arrive on time), study the relevant sections of your textbook, and complete all of your own homework assignments on time. You may not turn in homework problems that someone else has solved or use solutions you find online. At best you will not receive credit for the homework; at worst you will be charged with academic dishonesty.

This course moves along quickly and covers a lot of material; it is important that you keep up to date! In office hours, you should be prepared to use your computer's snipping tool, and copy-and-paste in Discord (CTRL-C and CTRL-V) to quickly post images that are appropriately sized (i.e., not gazillion pixel images taken with your phone).

SUNY Geneseo
Department of Physics and Astronomy
Class: TR 11:00 am; ISC 136
Web: https://tildesites.geneseo.edu/~pogo

Online Office Hours:
MTWR 8:30-9:20; MW 9:30-10:20; T 2:00-2:50
(https://discord.gg/GjkWREU)

Dr. Pogo
Office: ISC 228D
pogo@geneseo.edu

**When will it all happen?** Here is the schedule of events for this semester. Please note the due dates for homework and the dates for exams. The schedule is subject to revision as the course progresses, and any major changes will be announced in class. Textbook chapters refer to the 10th edition.

| | |
|---|---|
| Tuesday, January 20, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 1.1 - 1.5, Appendices A and B | Thursday, January 22, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 1.6 - 1.8; 2.1 - 2.3 Appendix E |
| Tuesday, January 27, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 2.4 - 2.7 Appendix C | Thursday, January 29, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 3.1 - 3.3<br>**Assignment #1 Due (8:00 am)** |
| Tuesday, February 3, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 4.1 - 4.5 | Thursday, February 5, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 4.6 - 4.10<br>**Assignment #2 Due (8:00 am)** |
| Tuesday, February 10, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: section 4.11 | Thursday, February 12, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: section 4.12<br>**Assignment #3 Due (8:00 am)** |
| Tuesday, February 17, 2026<br>**Exam #1 (Chapters 1 – 4a)**<br>Exam covers Assignments 1 through 3 | Thursday, February 19, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 5.1 - 5.2<br>**Assignment #4 Due (8:00 am)** |
| Tuesday, February 24, 2026<br>**All classes cancelled by administration** | Thursday/Friday, February 26/27, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 5.3 - 5.4<br>**Assignment #5 Due Friday (8:00 am)** |
| Tuesday, March 3, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 6.1 - 6.3 | Thursday/Friday, March 5/6, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 6.4 - 6.7<br>**Assignment #6 Due Friday (8:00 am)** |
| Thursday, March 10, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 7.1 – 7.2 | Thursday, March 12, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 7.3 - 7.5<br>**Assignment #7 Due (8:00 am)** |
| Tuesday, March 17, 2026<br>**No scheduled class** | Thursday, March 19, 2026<br>**No scheduled class** |
| Tuesday, March 24, 2026<br>**Exam #2 (Chapters 4b – 7)**<br>Exam covers Assignments 4 through 7 | Thursday, March 26, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 8.1 - 8.3<br>**Assignment #8 Due (8:00 am)** |
| Tuesday, March 31, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 8.4 - 8.6 | Thursday, April 2, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 9.1 - 9.2<br>**Assignment #9 Due (8:00 am)** |
| Tuesday, April 7, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 9.3 - 9.4 | Thursday, April 9, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 9.5 - 9.6<br>**Assignment #10 Due (8:00 am)** |
| Tuesday, April 14, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 10.1 - 10.3 | Thursday, April 16, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 10.4 - 10.6<br>**Assignment #11 Due (8:00 am)** |
| Tuesday, April 21, 2026<br>**Exam #3 (Chapters 7b – 9)**<br>Exam covers Assignments 8 through 11 | Thursday, April 23, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 11.1 - 11.6 |
| Tuesday, April 28, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 11.7 - 11.10<br>**Assignment #12 Due (8:00 am) + quiz** | Thursday, April 30, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 12.1 - 12.4, 12.6 - 12.8 |
| Tuesday, May 5, 2026<br>Suggested Reading: sections 13.1 - 13.4<br>**Assignment #13 Due (8:00 am) + quiz** | **Monday**, May 11, 2026<br>**Assignment #14 Due (8:00 am)**<br>**(obviously no quiz #14!)** |
| Tuesday, May 12, 2026 (noon)<br>**Exam #4 (Chapters 1 – 13)**<br>Exam covers Assignments 1 through 14<br>Noon – 2:30 pm | |

SUNY Geneseo | Dr. Pogo
Department of Physics and Astronomy | Online Office Hours: | Office: ISC 228D
Class: TR 11:00 am; ISC 136 | MTWR 8:30-9:20; MW 9:30-10:20; T 2:00-2:50
Web: https://tildesites.geneseo.edu/~pogo | (https://discord.gg/GjkWREU) | pogo@geneseo.edu

**Learning Outcomes**

This course satisfies SUNY General Education Requirements (GER) in Natural Science. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the methods scientists use to explore natural phenomena, including observation, hypothesis development, measurement and data collection, experimentation, evaluation of evidence, and employment of mathematical analysis; and students will demonstrate application of scientific data, concepts, and models in one of the natural (or physical) sciences.

At the end of this course, students will:

- Be able to use basic 1D and 2D kinematics (including the effects of gravity) to describe and predict the behavior of ideal objects.
- Be able to use free-body diagrams (force analysis) to describe and predict the behavior of ideal objects.
- Be able to use the principles of energy conservation to describe and predict the behavior of ideal objects.
- Be able to use the principles of momentum conservation to describe and predict the behavior of ideal objects.

Also, the college provides information at the following URL relating to a variety of course topics:

https://sunygeneseo.sharepoint.com/sites/provost/sitepages/syllabus%20resources%20related%20to%20student%20success/syllabus-resources-related-to-student-success.aspx?web=1