



Course Syllabus

Survey of General Physics

PHY 1023 / 82866 / Fall 2026

Credit Hours: 3 / Contact Hours: 3

Pre-requisites: MAC 1114 and MAC 1140

Contact Information

Instructor

Name: Dr. Nathaniel Fuller
Title: Adjunct Professor
Email: nfuller2@gulfcoast.edu
Phone Number: TBA

Office Location: TBA
Office Hours (Days & Times): TBA
Response Time: 1 business day
[Canvas message is the best way to contact me.](#)

Division Chair

Name: Dana Hutchinson, DPT
Title: Division Chair
Email: dhutchin1@gulfcoast.edu
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Division Administrative Assistant

Name: Kathy Bleday
Title: Sr. Administrative Assistant
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Phone Number: 850.872.3851

Course Information

Catalog Description:

A conceptual approach to physics with emphasis on problem solving. This course is designed for students who plan to take PHY 2048 and have had no previous physics course.

Student Learning Outcomes:

This course is designed for students who have never had physics before but plan to take a calculus-based physics course such as PHY-2048. This course is designed to develop an understanding of phenomena of our everyday life via physics. The survey of general physics will give students a background in Mechanics, Electricity & Magnetism, and Waves & Optics (when time permits). It will be helpful if the students have a working knowledge of algebra and plane geometry.

Emphasis will be given on:

- Gaining factual knowledge (terminology, classification, methods, trends)
- Learning fundamental principles, generalization, theories
- Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)

Course Materials & Resources:

Text Book: *Physics Principles with Applications*, 7th edition, Pearson, 2013

Author: Douglas C. Giancoli

ISBN10: 0-321-62592-7

ISBN13: 978-0-321-62592-2

Delivery Method:

This course meets face to face. Course material, assignments, and announcements may be offered via Canvas as a supplemental approach to learning at the discretion of the instructor. Please make sure that you have access to a computer with a webcam and internet service in the event a change in course delivery is needed.

Student Expectations

In this course, communication and feedback will occur through various channels, including GCSC email, Canvas Inbox, Canvas Announcements, Canvas Discussions, Microsoft Teams or Zoom, assignment feedback, and instructor office hours. Review the statements below so that you understand the expectations for communication.

As a student at Gulf Coast State College, you are expected to:

- **Adhere to Course Guidelines:** Follow the guidelines detailed in the course syllabus, along with any additional instructions provided by the instructor. This includes understanding and complying with the course objectives, grading criteria, and academic policies.
- **Maintain Regular Contact:** Keep in touch with your instructor and classmates via your GCSC email or other designated communication channels. Regular contact helps clarify doubts, share ideas, and foster a collaborative learning environment.
- **Active Participation:** Engage actively in class discussions and submit assignments on time. Your active participation is crucial for your academic success and contributes to a vibrant learning community.

As your instructor, my commitment to you is to:

- **Provide Timely Feedback:** I will review and provide feedback on your assignments and submissions promptly. My goal is to help you understand your strengths and areas for improvement, which is crucial for your academic growth.
- **Respond Via Canvas Inbox:** I will respond to your messages within 24-48 hours (excluding weekends), unless otherwise noted. I understand the importance of clear and timely communication in addressing your questions and concerns.
- **Maintain Weekly Office Hours:** I will maintain regular weekly office hours.

Course Schedule

Exam Dates	Module	Description
~ Week 4	1	Chapter 1: Introduction, Measurement, Estimating Chapter 2: Describing Motion: Kinematics in One Dimension Chapter 3: Kinematics in Two Dimensions, Vectors
~ Week 8	2	Chapter 4: Dynamics: Newton's Laws of Motion Chapter 5: Circular Motion; Gravitation Chapter 6: Work and Energy
~ Week 12	3	Chapter 7: Linear Momentum Chapter 8: Rotational Motion
~ Week 16	4	Chapter 16: Electric Charge and Electric Field Chapter 17: Electric Potential Chapter 18 Electric Currents
December 7th	Final	Final Exam: All Chapters Covered

Grading

GCSC Grading Scale

All grades will be posted in the student grade book in Canvas and will be assigned according to the following scale:

- A 90%-100%
- B 80%-89%
- C 70%-79%
- D 60%-69%
- F 59% and below

Calculation of Grades

Attendance / Participation	5%
Homework	25%
Exams	50%
Final Exam	20%

Homework

Completion of homework is required and will be assigned and will be due according to the assignment schedule given. Extra homework problems may also be given out during class. Homework will count toward your final grade (see item “Grades” below).

In order to receive full credit on homework, you must **SHOW ALL OF YOUR WORK** and not just the answers. This means that you should clearly label any necessary diagrams and solve problems algebraically before replacing variables with values. Also, **units** are to be included on all arithmetic terms and answers.

You are encouraged to work with your classmates on homework problems. Having a pool of people to bounce ideas off of will help you learn and identify gaps in your own understanding of the material. Homework problems will be chosen to illustrate physics principles, to help enhance your problem solving & critical thinking skills, and to prepare you for the exams.

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Course Policies

Accessibility Statement

Gulf Coast State College supports an inclusive learning environment for all students. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that hinder your full participation, reasonable accommodations can be arranged. Prior to receiving accommodations, you must register with Student Accessibility Resources. Appropriate academic accommodations will be determined based on the documented needs of the student. Please visit [GCSC's Student Accessibility Resource \(SAR\) webpage](#) to learn more. For information regarding the registration process, email sar@gulfcoast.edu or call 850-747-3243.

Attendance Policy

Regular class attendance and participation are significant factors that help to promote success in college. Students are expected to attend all class meetings of all courses for which they are registered.

- Your full presence at all class meetings is expected. Students may withdraw themselves only BEFORE the scheduled deadline as published on the college academic calendar.
- Students that wish to withdraw must complete a withdrawal form and submit it to the Office of Enrollment Services.
- Your instructor will NOT initiate withdrawals.
- Withdrawals prior to the scheduled deadline will be recorded as a "W". After the deadline, a standard grade will be assigned.

In the event of absence, you should contact your instructor as soon as possible to indicate the reason and to inquire whether make-up work is possible. (Make-up work is offered solely at the discretion of your professor.)

If your absences in a class become excessive, your professor may contact you, indicating that further absence may result in your withdrawal from the course. Your professor can withdraw you from a course for excessive absences without your permission.

Instructors will monitor attendance at the beginning of each semester. If you are not in attendance during this period, you may be withdrawn from the course. You will be financially responsible for the course and a "W or NS" will appear on your transcript. Withdrawal from a course may also have implications for financial aid.

Withdrawal Policy

Two withdrawals are permitted per credit course. After that, a grade will be assigned. Please be concerned about withdrawals. When admitting students into certain programs, universities may calculate withdrawals as grades. It is your responsibility to verify the effects of enrollment and/or withdrawal upon your financial assistance (financial aid, scholarships, grants, etc.). There are two kinds of withdrawals---student and administrative.

- *Student Withdrawal (W1)* - Students wishing to withdraw must complete the online Student Withdrawal Form before the scheduled withdrawal deadline as published in the College catalog. Student withdrawals initiated prior to the scheduled withdrawal deadline will be recorded as a grade of "W." The withdrawal deadline for an off-term or condensed term is one week after midterm.
- *Administrative Withdrawal (W2)* – A faculty member may withdraw a student up to the published withdrawal deadline for violation of the class attendance policy in which case the student will receive a grade of "W." The withdrawal deadline for an off-term or condensed term is one week after midterm.

Students cannot withdraw from developmental studies courses (college-preparatory classes) after the drop/add period without written permission from their instructor and/or their academic advisor.

Academic Integrity

Honest participation in academic endeavors fosters an environment in which optimal learning can take place and is consistent with the college's mission. Academic misconduct, including cheating or plagiarism, is destructive to the spirit of an educational environment. GCSC professors report every instance of student academic misconduct to the college for inclusion on the student's records.

Most course syllabi include an academic honesty policy and the consequences for violating this policy. Familiarize yourself with course policies regarding authorized or unauthorized use of AI to avoid the pitfalls of academic dishonesty.

The following definitions will apply:

"Cheating"

includes but is not limited to use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; the acquisition without permission of tests or other academic materials belonging to a member of the College's faculty.

"Plagiarism"

includes, but is not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment as well as the

purchase of papers or projects. It can also include overuse of an editing program like Grammarly or submitting work written by an Artificial Intelligence (AI) generator like ChatGPT. Make certain to consult your course syllabi for your instructor's guidelines of AI material.

"Self-plagiarism"

occurs when a student submits the same or considerably similar document to fulfill requirements in different classes. For example, if a student submits a term paper in Religion they originally wrote for an English class, this is self-plagiarism. Once a paper receives a grade in one class, it cannot be submitted again for another class.

"Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)"

is technology that uses machine learning to create new content, such as text, images or code, based on user input. These systems are trained on vast amounts of data, including large language models and image or code generators. Common examples include ChatGPT, GitHub, Copilot, Google Gemini, Perplexity, and the Grammarly AI function.

Sanctions for incidences of academic misconduct, depending on the severity of the incidence and/or its repetition, may range from receiving an F grade (or 0) for the test, assignment, or activity, to failure of the course, to suspension or dismissal from the college.

Classroom Recording

In accordance with federal and state privacy laws, students may record class lectures for their own personal educational use, in connection with a complaint to the college, or as evidence in internal or external legal proceedings. Students may not publish or upload the recordings or any components thereof without the knowledge and written permission of the faculty member. Failure to obtain permission to publish could lead to the students' having to pay damages, attorney fees, and court costs. For more information about what can be recorded, please see the guidelines in the GCSC Student Handbook.

Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

The use of generative AI tools in academic work requires clear guidelines to maintain academic integrity. Please review the policy selected for this course regarding the use of AI tools such as ChatGPT, Copilot, Grammarly's AI features, and similar platforms for assignments, research, and other coursework.

See the student handbook for further information. Students with questions about acceptable use should consult their instructor.

Limited Assistive Use Only

Students may use basic assistive technologies for spelling, grammar, and formatting (e.g., PaperRater or SpellCheckPLUS); however, the use of AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Copilot, Grammarly's AI function, etc.) for generating, rewriting, or enhancing content is not permitted. All work must reflect the student's original ideas and writing. Representing work created by AI as one's own is a violation of academic integrity and may result in penalties, including a zero on the assignment and additional disciplinary actions as outlined in the college's academic integrity policy.

*AI use (e.g. ChatGPT, Gemini, etc.) is permitted for use as a study aid. However, all work submitted must be done by the student without the use of AI. Problems that appear to be solved using AI (such as using methods beyond the scope of this course) will be subject to further scrutiny. Any work found to be AI generated will, **at a minimum**, receive a **zero for the entire assignment**, and may include further disciplinary action as warranted.*

Anti-Discrimination Policy

Gulf Coast State College does not discriminate against any person in its programs, activities, policies or procedures on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, national origin, marital status, religion, age, gender, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, disability, or veteran status. All questions or inquiries regarding compliance with laws relating to non-discrimination and all complaints regarding sexual misconduct or discrimination may be directed to Amanda Reed, Executive Director of Human Resources/Title II/504/Title IX Coordinator and Employment Equity Officer, Gulf Coast State College, 5230 W. US Highway 98, Panama City, FL 32401; 850-769-1551, ext. 3516. Rules, policies, fees, and courses described in this catalog are subject to change without notice.

Syllabus Policy

For any syllabus posted prior to the beginning of the term, the instructor reserves the right to make minor changes prior to or during the term. The instructor will notify students via e-mail or Canvas announcement when changes are made in the requirements and/or grading of the course.

Student Support Resources

Gulf Coast State College is committed to providing you with the resources you need for success as a student and beyond. View all the academic and student support resources provided at GCSC on the [Student Services web page](#).

Course Technology & Support

To successfully participate in this online course, students must have basic computer and digital information literacy skills and meet the following technology requirements:

- **Computer:** Up-to-date web browser that supports the Canvas learning management system; please refer to the system requirements for compatibility and information on using the Canvas app on mobile devices.
- **Internet Speed:** Minimum bandwidth of 8 Mbps upload/download speed to effectively engage in online activities and access multimedia.
- **Office 365 software:** Available for free download through GCSC Information Technology Services (ITS).

If you need technical support, contact the ITS Help Desk, available 24/7 at (850) 913-3303.

Classroom Conduct Policy, Natural Sciences Division

In order to promote a learning environment in which you as a student may receive the greatest consideration, we will do all we can to prevent unnecessary interruptions and class disruptions. It is the policy of the Division of Natural Sciences that disruptions will not be tolerated in the classes administered by this division.

1. Everyone is required to be in class on time.

Anyone entering the classroom after the instructor has begun class is late and is a disruption to the class. The instructor must implement an appropriate policy to discourage late arrivals.

2. The student must have prior consent of the instructor before leaving the class early.

If you must leave class early, notify the instructor before the beginning of the class. We do not conduct "open" classrooms where individuals may arrive and exit at their discretion. This activity is disruptive to those trying to learn and will not be allowed. If you leave early without notifying the instructor, you will not be allowed back in the classroom without first obtaining permission from the Chair of the Natural Sciences Division.

3. The instructor will not to allow talking or other distractions to occur at inappropriate times.

Talking and other disruptive behaviors, including the use of electronic devices, are a distraction to other students and have no place in a college environment. Students who engage in such behavior will be asked to stop. If the behavior continues, the student will be asked to leave and confer with the Chair of the Natural Sciences Division concerning the nature of the behavior before being allowed back into the classroom.

4. Guests and non-enrolled students, including children, are not allowed in classrooms/labs.

5. The instructor has the authority to handle any infractions of discipline.

The student has the right to appeal to the Chair of the Natural Sciences Division.