

**The University of Texas at Tyler**  
**Syllabus**  
**Spring 2026**  
**College Physics I**  
**Physics 1301**  
**Section 1**

**Instructor:** Dr. Randy Back

**Classroom:** Soules College of Business 00111

**Class Time:** MWF 10:10-11:05

**Office:** RBN 4047

**Phone:** (903) 565-5797

**Email:** rback@uttyler.edu

**Office Hours:** MTWRF 9-10 or by appointment. You should feel free to stop by my office any time. If I am available, I will be happy to help you.

**Course Topics:** This course will introduce the student to some basic concepts and principles in physics. Problem solving will be a major component of this class. Major topics covered will include Kinematics, Newton's Laws, Energy, Momentum, Rotational motion and Gravity.

**Text:**

**College Physics - Modified Access**

By Knight, Randall D. / Jones, Brian / Field, Stuart

**Edition:** 4TH 19

**Publisher:** PEARSON

**ISBN 13:** 9780136782216

The link below is to the Pearson website. You can purchase access to the homework site and it will come with an electronic copy of the textbook.

<https://www.pearson.com/en-us/subject-catalog/p/college-physics-a-strategic-approach/P200000007003/9780136782216>

**Prerequisite:** MATH 1316 or MATH 2312.

**Homework:** Homework will be done on <https://mlm.pearson.com/northamerica/masteringphysics/>. The course ID is back10624. Homework is one of the most important parts of this class. You must spend significant time on the homework to really understand this material.

**Quizzes:** There will be a weekly quiz given in class, usually on Friday.

**Tests:** There will be four tests given during the semester: Test 1 – February 4, Test 2 – February 27, Test 3 – April 1, Test 4 – April 24. Calculators will not be allowed during the tests, unless stated otherwise. The test dates above might change depending on how quickly we cover the material.

**Final Exam:** The final will cover material from the entire semester. Calculators will not be allowed on the final unless stated otherwise. Your grade on the final will be used to replace your lowest test grade. The final is scheduled for April 29.

**Make-up:** **No late work will be accepted.** If you have an excused absence you must make up the work before the due date.

**Grading:** The components of your final grade are given below

4 Tests - 65 %

HW- 10%

Quizzes- 10%

Final - 15 %

Your final letter grade will be given based on the following percentages: A (90%-100%), B (80%-89%), C (70%-79%), D (60%-69%), F (<60%).

**Disability Statement:** "If you have a disability, including a learning disability, for which you request disability support services/accommodation(s), please contact Ida MacDonald in the Disability Support Services office so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting disability support services/accommodation(s) must provide appropriate documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Support Services counselor. In order to assure approved services, the first week of class, diagnostic, prognostic, and prescriptive information should be received 30 days prior to the beginning of the semester services are requested. For more information, call or visit the Student Services Center located in the

University Center, Room 282. The telephone number is 566-7079 (TDD 565-5579)." Additional information may also be obtained at the following UT Tyler Web address: <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>.

**Social Security Statement:** It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number.

**Note Regarding Student Absence due to Religious Observance:** Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor by the second class meeting of such absences.

### **Grade Replacement**

If you are repeating this course for a grade replacement, you must file an intent to receive grade forgiveness with the registrar by the Census date. Failure to file an intent to use grade forgiveness will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. A student will receive grade forgiveness (grade replacement) for only three (undergraduate student) or two (graduate student) course repeats during his/her career at UT Tyler. (2006-08 Catalog, p.35)

### **Student Academic Conduct**

In this course students are encouraged to work in groups when doing homework and preparing for quizzes and tests. However, during quizzes and examinations a code of honor will apply under which students are to work alone and neither give help to others nor receive help from any sources. Cheating will not be tolerated.

### **Concealed Campus Carry**

We respect the right and privacy of students who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>.

**A more complete description of University policies is listed at the following website:**

<http://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/syllabuspolicies.pdf>

The Census day is January 26

Last Day to withdraw from a course is March 30

### **Course Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Critical Thinking Skills (includes creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information)

The student will demonstrate their critical thinking skills by using mathematical models and physical concepts to analyze physical systems. This Student Learning Outcome (SLO) will be assessed using test questions.

2. Communication Skills (includes effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication)

The student will communicate an understanding of the physics principles discussed in class on free response test questions. The questions will require the student to express a qualitative understanding through written communication of the physics concepts covered in class. This SLO will be assessed using test questions.

### **Departmental statement on cell phones and electronic devices.**

Cell phones, smart watches, and any similar electronic devices must be turned off and put away during exams. If they observed out in a visually accessible place (*i.e.* between legs, on the floor, *etc.*), it will be assumed that they are being used to cheat; your exam will be taken away, you will receive a zero score (0 points) for the test, and you will be referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs.

### **General Course Information**

1. You are responsible for all the material covered in class.
2. Physics builds on itself. It is very important that you do not fall behind on the material.
3. You should read the book multiple times. If you do not understand the material in the book, you will not understand the material on the tests.
4. It is very important that you spend time outside class reading the material and doing the homework. The only way you will understand the material is to spend time working on the problems.
5. I strongly encourage you to ask questions in class and come by my office any time you need help with physics.
6. Regular classroom attendance is expected.

**Spring 2026  
PHYS 1301  
Schedule**

January 12- Introduction & Chapter 1- Motion diagrams  
January 14- Chapter 2- Kinematics  
January 16- Chapter 2- graphs of position, velocity and acceleration  
January 19- Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday  
January 21- Chapter 2- kinematic equations  
January 23- Chapter 2 and Chapter 3- vectors  
January 26- Chapter 3- motion in two dimensions  
January 28- Chapter 3- projectile motion  
January 30- Chapter 3- projectile motion  
February 2- Chapter 3- circular motion  
February 4- **Test 1**  
February 6 - Chapter 4- catalog of forces  
February 9- Chapter 4- newton's 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> laws  
February 11- Chapter 5- equilibrium  
February 13- Chapter 5- newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> law  
February 16- Chapter 5- newton's 3<sup>rd</sup> law  
February 18- Chapter 6- uniform circular motion  
February 20- Chapter 6- centripetal force  
February 23- Chapter 6- newton's law of gravity  
February 25- Chapter 6- gravity and orbits  
February 27- **Test 2**  
March 2- Chapter 7- rotational kinematics  
March 4- Chapter 7- moment of inertia  
March 6- Chapter 7- torque  
March 9- Spring Break  
March 11- Spring Break  
March 13- Spring Break  
March 16- Chapter 7-rotational dynamics  
March 18- Chapter 7-newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> law  
March 20- Chapter 8- Static equilibrium  
March 23- Chapter 8- static equilibrium  
March 25- Chapter 8- springs and Hooke's law  
March 27- Chapter 8- springs and Hooke's law  
March 30- Chapter 8 -Stability and Center of Mass  
April 1- **Test 3**  
April 3- Chapter 9- impulse and momentum  
April 6- Chapter 9- conservation of momentum (inelastic collisions)  
April 8- Chapter 9-collisions in 2d and angular momentum  
April 10- Chapter 9- collisions in 2d and angular momentum  
April 13- Chapter 10- work  
April 15- Chapter 10-kinetic and potential energy  
April 17- Chapter 10- Conservation of energy and conservative and non-conservative forces  
April 20- Chapter 10- Conservation of energy for a system of objects and collisions  
April 22- Chapter 10-energy and power  
April 24- **Test 4**  
April 27  
April 29 **Final Exam**

