

Physics 214: Vibrations and Waves

Fall Term 2009

MWF 1:00 pm -1:50 pm

Physical Sciences 103

Instructor

Prof. Michael Faux
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Textbook

Vibrations and Waves
A. P. French
Norton Publishing, 1971
ISBN: 0393099369

Course Overview

This course offers a coherent and detailed description of the physics of vibrations and waves. Particular emphasis is on the application to other branches of science and engineering. Topics include damped and forced oscillations, transverse and longitudinal wave motion, electromagnetic waves and Fourier methods.

Office Hours

I hold office hours from 10:00 am until noon Mondays and Wednesdays. During these times I'll be in my office, and will be happy to meet with any student. Alternatively, students are encouraged to email or phone me to schedule an appointment. Please leave a voice message if I'm not in the office. I'll make every effort to accommodate you.

Homework

I will assign homework problems on selected days during the semester. The homework problems should be completed, written up neatly, and returned to me prior to class on the due date, which will be specified. Typically, one week is given to complete a homework assignment, although this may vary. The homework assignments will count for 25 percent of the final course score, described below.

Exams

There will be two in-class midterm exams, and one final exam. See below for the respective dates. Each exam will be cumulative, meaning that all material covered up to that point will be tested. Only serious, utterly unavoidable, fully-verifiable excuses will be accepted to explain absence from any of the three examinations. In almost all circumstances, a missed exam will result in an exam grade of zero.

Grading

You will receive a numerical grade for this course, computed using the following scheme:

Laboratory	25%
Midterm Exam #1	25%
Midterm Exam #2	25%
Final Exam	25%
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Total	100%

The numerical course grade will be converted to a letter grade using a fair and generous grading curve.

Emergency Evacuation/Shelter-in-Place Procedures

In the event of an emergency evacuation (i.e., fire or other emergency), classes meeting in this building are directed to reassemble at Chase Gymnasium so that all persons can be accounted for. Complete details of the emergency evacuation, shelter-in-place, and other emergency procedures can be found at <http://www.oneonta.edu/security>.