

PHYS 122: Announcement of First Exam

January 26, 2009

Here are the Rules and Details of the First Hour Exam:

- The first hour exam for Physics 122 is Friday, February 6, 9:30 AM in lecture (Strosacker Hall).
- The first hour exam will start at 9:30 AM *sharp* and will end at 10:20 PM. You will have 50 minutes to complete all of the questions.
- The exam will count five percent of your grade.
- It is plausible that we will distribute at least three different (slightly) flavors of the exam to mitigate the temptation to sneak a peek at your neighbor's work. Resist the temptation.
- Come prepared with pencils, and a calculator. Your calculator should be a regular scientific calculator – no programmable calculators. Also, no laptops, Palm Pilots, Blackberries, iPhones, iPods, mp3 players, blue-tooth devices, cameras, mobile phones, nor any other audio or video electronic devices.
- Every year I get a fair amount of complaint and questions about the “no programmable calculators” rule. To be clear: TI-80 and TI-90 programmable calculators with plotting software are *not allowed*. If the calculator is “programmable” then it is not allowed. If it cost more than about \$20, it probably is not allowed. Good examples of acceptable calculator: Texas Instruments TI-30 series, about \$11 at the bookstore. Bringing a calculator is entirely optional. Any problems with numeric values will be set up so that the math can be done “by hand” easily. I would guess that most students are not likely to need a calculator to complete the exam.
- The exam is “closed book” but you may bring in one $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ sheet of paper (front and back) with any **hand-written** notes that you wish to write down on the front and back of each sheet. Your “crib sheet” note page must be hand-written only – no photocopy or computer printouts or anything like this. You may put anything you like on these sheets so long as you have written them in your own hand. No other notes, books, or other materials will be permitted. You must *not* bring in a computer-generated crib-sheet.
- If you need to know the numerical values of any physical constants such as ϵ_0 , μ_0 , k , etc., these will be provided to you on the exam.
- The exam will cover materials presented in lecture since the beginning of the course through the end of the lecture on Monday, February 2nd.
- The First Homework will be graded and returned to you within the next day or so. The Second Homework will be collected today and returned to you early next week. The Third homework is posted and is due next week Monday. But it will not be graded and returned to you before the First Hour Exam. However, solutions for the Third Homework will be posted next Monday.

- We will continue to post a series called the **Practice Problem of the Day**. We expect that there will be at least 10 of these ready for you before next week Monday. These problems will not be collected or graded. They are for students to work to prepare for the exam. Solutions will be posted. You are responsible for studying and understanding these problems. Pretty much all of the Practice Problems represent good example exam problems. “Clicker” problems with solutions will also be posted.
- On Wednesday, Feb 4 the lecture will focus on reviewing materials that will be central to the exam.
- Important! Read contents of Handout #09: entitled “Mr. Covault’s Comments to Students on Taking Physics Exams.” Free advice and worth every penny.