



PHYS 1905 PHYSICS BEHIND EVERYDAY LIFE

An on-line course based on the
Open Physics Education Module



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Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday

11:30 p.m.- 12:30 p.m.

OVERVIEW

This course is intended for students with little or no background in Science. It introduces physics through a set of modules that closely connected to our everyday life and future.

This course is only available on-line via Brightspace.

Please note that Faculty of Science students may only take this course as a free elective.

COURSE LEVEL LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

1. Explain physics related phenomenon using basic physics principles and terminology
2. Perform basic calculation/estimations to solve simple physics related problems
3. Make correct judgement/decisions on physics related issues in their daily life based on basic physics principles

TEXTBOOK

The optional text-book for the course is “Physics Beyond the Comfort Zone” by Peter Watson. This textbook has a number of relevant sections relating to material for this course, but does not cover some areas. The lectures and supplementary materials are intended to cover the course with this textbook as a useful but optional additional aid. This is an e-text book available from Amazon or IBooks for \$9.99:

https://www.amazon.ca/Physics-Outside-Comfort-Peter-Watson-ebook/dp/B01KYX3A5O/ref=sr_1_3?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1472130768&sr=1-3&keywords=comfort+zone

https://itunes.apple.com/us/book/physics-beyond-comfort-zone/id902018641?mt=13&uo=4%22%20target=%22itunes_store%22%3EPhysics%20Beyond%20the%20Comfort%20Zone%20-%20Watson,%20Peter%3C/a%3E

If you have difficulties accessing both two formats, please let me know.

CONTENT

The following thematic modules will be covered in this course. Each module will help you answer a series of questions listed below.

1. Transportation

If you drive a car and take a bus to get from point A to B. How to estimate your travel time and average speed? Have you wondered what forces are involved to keep the cars moving? What is the physics behind the safety rules on the road, especially in winter? Can physics help you pick a car that is safer during collision? What are the physical factors that determine the fuel economy of a car?

2. Sports

Physics is at the very heart of every sport. A good understanding of physics will help athletes maximize their potential. What forces are involved in cycling? Can a cyclist outrun a car? How strong a rope should you choose for rock climbing? How do figure skaters control their spins? What is the best projection angle for shot put?

3. Weather and climate

Global warming is almost too well-known to require discussion, but most people have a very limited understanding on the underlying science. If we cannot predict the weather over more than a week, how can we hope to predict climate change of a century? If there are equations that describe the weather, why can't we predict where hurricanes will go? Why is carbon dioxide so important?

4. Home Electricity

Our civilization is very dependent on electrical power. But what is electricity? How is electricity generated and transferred? How do light bulbs work? How efficient are some of the common appliances? How to estimate the electricity consumptions of a household? What are the preclusions for electrical safety?

5. Green Energy

From human body, to cars, to factories, to the whole human society, nothing will function without energy. As our demand increases, what are the GREEN energy sources? How is the energy generated from these sources? How efficient are they? What are the environment impacts of different energy sources?

MODULE COMPLETION DATES AND PHYSICS TOPICS COVERED

Thematic Modules	Expected completion dates of lecture videos	Physics topics Covered
1. Transportation	May 13	Linear motion, Speed, velocity, acceleration, Force, Newton's laws, circular motion, friction, collision, energy and momentum
2. Sports	May 20	Force, energy, projectile motion, rotation, moment of inertia, angular momentum
3. Weather and climate	May 27	Energy, heat and temperature, the first law thermodynamics, heat transfer, black body radiation
4. Home Electricity	June 3	Electrostatics, electric potential, current, and resistance, ohm's law, electric power, refrigeration, electric safety
5. Green Energy	June 10	Electricity as energy, Electromagnetic Induction, thermal power generation, heat engine, nuclear power, solar power, wind power, biofuels

EVALUATION

1. (40%) Module quizzes

At the end of each thematic modules, there will be an online quiz of 15 multi-choice questions. **Quizzes will always open on Thursday and must be completed before Monday mid night (11:59 pm).** Each quiz account for 8% of the final mark.

Thematic Module	Module quiz due date
1. Transportation	May 19, 11:59 pm
2. Sports	May 26, 11:59 pm
3. Weather and climate	June 2, 11:59 pm
4. Home Electricity	June 9, 11:59 pm
5. Green Energy	June 16, 11:59 pm

2. (40%) Two writing projects

Each thematic module has suggested essay topics and/or a lab you can perform using materials or devices that are available in your home.

You are required to write **two** essays or lab reports on two of the five topics of your choice. The first (essay or lab) must be chosen from the first two thematic Modules (Transportation and Sport). The second (essay or lab) must be chosen from the last three modules (Weather and climate, Home Electricity, and Green Energy). **At one of the two writing project has to be essay, i.e. you can chose (one essay + one lab), or two essays.**

The due dates at listed in this table:

	Thematic Modules	Module essay or lab report due dates
1 st Essay or Lab Must pick one of the two topics	1. Transportation	The 1 st Essay or Lab report due on June 2, 11:59 pm
	2. Sports	
2 nd Essay or Lab Must pick one of the three topics	3. Weather and climate	The 2 nd Essay or Lab report due on, June 16, 11:59 pm
	4. Home Electricity	
	5. Green Energy	

For the lab report, a write up template will be provided. The essay has to be **800-1000 words**. Both the essay and lab reports must be written using word processing software. **Hand written essays will NOT be accepted and will be given zero mark.** Essays or lab reports should be uploaded via Brightspace.

3. (20%) Final online quiz

During the final exam period, there will be an online quiz of multi-choice questions that covers all the content of the course.

COPYING, PLAGIARISM AND OTHER FORMS OF CHEATING

The attention of all students is drawn to section E.12 of the Academic Regulations of the University: <http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/academicintegrity/>

Such offences will normally result in a mark of zero on the cheated work. In addition, a report will be sent to the Dean of the student's Faculty, for possible further disciplinary action.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Requests for Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Religious obligation

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. carleton.ca/pmc

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and its survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of

class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist.

<https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit:

students.carleton.ca/course-outline

Assistance for Students:

Academic and Career Development Services: <http://carleton.ca/sacds/>

Writing Services: <http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/>

Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/group-support/pass/>

Math Tutorial Centre: <https://carleton.ca/math/math-tutorial-centre/>

Science Student Success Centre: <https://sssc.carleton.ca/>

Important Information:

- Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).
- Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.
- Carleton University is committed to protecting the privacy of those who study or work here (currently and formerly). To that end, Carleton's Privacy Office seeks to encourage the implementation of the privacy provisions of Ontario's *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) within the university.
- In accordance with FIPPA, please ensure all communication with staff/faculty is via your Carleton email account. To get your Carleton Email you will need to activate your MyCarletonOne account through Carleton Central. Once you have activated your MyCarletonOne account, log into the MyCarleton Portal.