Visual Physics 218 - Sections 518, 519, 526, and 527

Lab/Recitation TA: Alexx Perloff

Lab/Recitation TA Email: aperloff@tamu.edu

Webpage: http://people.physics.tamu.edu/aperloff/

Office: MIST 212

Office Hour: By appointment only. I am available most days (including the weekends if you ask nicely).

Lab/Recitation Time:
- 518 - Thursday from 12:45 PM to 2:45 PM
- 519 - Tuesday from 12:45 PM to 2:45 PM
- 526 - Wednesday from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM
- 527 - Monday from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM


Recitation: I will make every effort to follow your professor's schedule. We will review a chapter the week after it is covered in your lecture so your professor may introduce the topics. Please come to recitation prepared and having already read the chapter for that week. Questions will be given which are relevant to that week's reading. You will be expected to work in groups to solve the question at hand. After each question there will be a class discussion. Every effort will be made to avoid straight lecturing. However, sometimes this is unavoidable.

There will be 13 quizzes for the semester given at the end of each recitation session. Each quiz will be graded on a 10 point scale. The average of all the quizzes will compose your recitation grade, however, the lowest score will be dropped. If you miss a recitation and have a valid excuse, you may contact me about making-up the quiz. Make-up quizzes will only be given during the same week as the quiz that was missed. Please do not abuse this policy.

Lab: There are four labs for the semester. Each lab will be two weeks long. You will submit a Technical Memo as your lab report. The Tech Memo is a document that discusses the experiment, your results and conclusions, plus any tables and/or charts you are asked to prepare. Each Tech Memo is graded on a 20 point scale. You will also have to keep a Lab Journal, which stores the notes and observations you take during the lab period.

Your lab grade is composed as follows:

4 Tech Memos : 80 points
Lab Journal : 20 points
Lab Total: 100 points

Lab Journal – In the Lab Journal, you need to record any lab notes/data that you need to complete your Tech Memos. In addition, you need to answer the “Questions to be answered in your lab journal:” for each lab. The Lab Journal will be collected and graded after the last lab. You must take notes every day!

Tech Memo – In the Tech Memo, answer the questions in the “Questions to be answered in your Technical Memo:” section in the lab manual, including all results and charts you are asked to complete. The key piece that I will be looking for is the error propagation and some original thought about the experiment. You can find a document about
error propagation, entitled Introduction to Error Theory, on the visual physics home page. Each lab has multiple experiments, so each lab team member will choose one experiment and submit a Tech Memo on that experiment only. Only answer the questions for the experiment you are writing up for that lab. Example lab reports can be found on my webpage.

Lab Attendance – If you attend every lab period, then your grade will remain the same. If you miss a lab period, 5 points (half a letter grade) will be deducted from your total grade. However, you will be allowed to obtain the lab data from your partners and submit a Tech Memo on-time for that lab. There is NO make-up lab, so if you must miss a lab, you need to attend another Visual Physics lab section that week to make up the lab. Notify your TA which section you will be attending that week so that your TA can alert that section’s TA that you will be attending and so that you will receive credit for attending the lab. Lab Tech Memos are due one week after completion of the lab. A Tech Memo will receive an automatic deduction of two points if not turned in during the lab/recitation period on the day it is due. No Tech Memos will be accepted more than one week late.

You must achieve a lab grade of 70% or higher to pass the course.

No food or drink are allowed in the lab!