

COURSE SYLLABUS**PHYSICS 103A – all sections****Fall 2025**

INSTRUCTOR	Name: TBA, E-mail: TBA
OFFICE HOURS	Hours and location: TBA
TEXTBOOK	Physics 103A Laboratory Manual 1st Edition (New) , sold by NJIT bookstore
DESCRIPTION	This general physics laboratory course involves experiments which demonstrate the topics related to physics 103 including fluid, heat, thermodynamics, wave motion, sound, electric circuit, and light.
NOTE	To take the laboratory course, PHYS 103A, a student must concurrently take the lecture course, PHYS 103 unless the student passed the lecture course previously. Withdrawal from LAB requires withdrawal from the LEC.
HELP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Visit or email your instructor if you are having trouble with the lab course.- If you need an accommodation due to a disability, please contact the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services at OARS@NJIT.EDU, or visit the office in Kupfrian Hall 201 to discuss your specific needs.
GENERAL INFORMATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- There is no exam in the lab course.- No make-up for missing labs is allowed.- Grading (A through D and F) is based on attendance, participation, and lab report.- Experiments are a group effort.- Laboratory reports should be individual ones submitted by each student.- Lab computer login method: Username: your UCID and Password: your UCID password- NJIT physics lab website: https://research.njit.edu/introphysics/
DELIVERY MODE	Face-to-Face: Delivery of instruction is structured around in-person classroom meeting times. Instruction is delivered in person, and students are expected to attend class.
LEARNING OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Students will master basic physics concepts by performing an experiment relevant to corresponding course work.- Students will gain hands-on experience with experimental processes and develop effective written communication skills.- Students should develop collaborative learning skills by working in a group.
LEARNING OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Students will demonstrate basic experimental skills by practicing setting up and conducting an experiment.- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the analytical methods required to interpret and analyze results and draw conclusions as supported by their data.- Students will demonstrate basic communication skills by working in groups on laboratory experiments and the thoughtful discussion and interpretation of data.
ATTENDANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Attendance policy is very strict. It is a student's responsibility to confirm his/her attendance with the Lab instructor.- It is required for students to attend all lab experiments since grading is based on attendance, participation, and lab report.- It is required for a student to sign the attendance sheet in every lab class. If a student fails to sign it, it is treated as being absent.- Attendance will be checked in the beginning and middle of each class by your instructor.- If a student does not appeal and resolve his/her attendance within 7 days, no further complaint will be accepted.- If a student makes more than 3 unexcused absences, the student is very likely to fail the lab course.- If a student has excusable absences, the student should contact the Office of the Dean of Students to email an official excuse to his/her lab instructor.- Students can check their Attendance and Participation grade by appointment with the TA- There might be a camera recording by a lab instructor for attendance and participation (It is required for the students to sign a waiver acknowledging that they are being recorded).
GRADING POLICY	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The grading guidelines are as follows: Attendance (20%); Participation (20%); Laboratory Report (60%)2. Attendance Points: Attendance for each lab session is 1 point

	<p>3. Lateness penalties: Late by 10-20 minutes (-0.2 points); Late by 20-30 minutes (-0.5 points); Late by more than 30 minutes (marked as absence).</p> <p>4. Participation Points: Active (2 points), Average (1 point), Not participate (0).</p> <p>5. A grade of zero (0) will be given for any missed experiment with no excuse.</p> <p>6. Submission of the lab report is due the following week class begins – penalty for lateness is 10 % per day.</p> <p>7. Laboratory Report Grading (points):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Style ; font type, font size, line space, margin, etc. given by your lab instructor (10) - Title (5) - Introduction including Objective and Theoretical Background (10) - Experimental Procedure (10) - Results: Experimental Data (15) and Calculation (15) - Discussion and analysis of results; Answers to questions (20) - Conclusions (10) - Raw Data Sheet (5); unless otherwise instructed, raw data sheets (or photocopies of raw data) should be attached to the lab report. The raw data should be checked and signed by your instructor at the completion of the lab experiment.
GRADING SCALE	90 - 100 % = A, 85 - 89 % = B+, 80 - 84 % = B, 75 - 79 % = C+, 65 - 74 % = C, 50 - 64 % = D, 0 - 49 % = F

LAB COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Period	Experiment
1*	9/2(T) - 9/8(M)	Introduction and Error Analysis
2	9/9(T) - 9/15(M)	Lab A: Young's Modulus-- Elasticity in Length
3	9/16(T) - 9/22(M)	Lab 7: Archimedes' Principle and Density
4	9/23(T) - 9/29(M)	Lab D: Linear Expansion Coefficient
5**	9/30(T) - 10/6(M)	Lab E: Specific Heat
6	10/7(T) - 10/13(M)	Lab F: Heat of Fusion of Ice
7	10/14(T) - 10/20(M)	Lab G: Mechanical Equivalent of Heat
8	10/21(T) - 10/27(M)	Lab B1: Simple Harmonic Motion
9	10/28(T) - 11/3(M)	Lab W: Transverse Standing Waves on a String
10***	11/4(T) - 11/10(M)	Lab J: Longitudinal Standing Waves in a Sound Tube
11	11/11(T) - 11/17(M)	Lab H: Electrical Equivalent of Heat
12	11/18(T) - 11/24(M)	Lab 215: Ohm's Law - Current, Voltage, and Resistance Measurements
13****	11/25(T) - 12/3(W)	Lab M: Thin Lenses
14	12/4(R) - 12/10(W)	Lab N: Grating Diffraction

* 9/8 (Mon.) Last Day to add/drop a class

** 10/2 (Thurs.) Wellness Day

*** 11/10 (Mon) Last Day to Withdraw from Classes

**** 11/25 (Tue) Thursday classes meet

**** 11/26 (Wed) Friday classes meet

**** 11/27 (Thurs.) and 11/28 (Fri.) Thanksgiving Recess Begins. No classes

12/22 (M) Final Grades Due

Physics Laboratory Safety

1. Food and drink are not permitted during class in the lab at any time.
2. Wear safety glasses all the time during lab experiments.
3. Do not come into the lab room early unless the instructor is present.
4. Do not wear loose hair or clothing around moving equipment.
5. Do not set equipment too close to the edge of the table.
6. Do not activate any electric circuit or apparatus until the instructor inspects it.
7. Never touch a possibly live circuit and do not touch electrical equipment with wet hands.

8. Only use laboratory equipment for the instructional purpose for which it was intended.
9. Never look directly at the beam of a laser and light from a lamp used for experiment.
10. All trash and waste materials should be disposed of in the proper container. Do not pour chemicals into the laboratory sink.
11. Do not shorten the electrical leads on any equipment.
12. Any equipment except computers not in use should be turned off.
13. Do not take apart any apparatus or piece of equipment.
14. All damaged equipment and chemical spills should be immediately reported to a laboratory instructor or laboratory staff.
15. Accidents and emergencies must be immediately reported to the laboratory instructor. (NJIT Emergency call number: 911)
16. Be aware that fire extinguishers are in Rooms 406T and 407T.