

Ph1a: Classical Mechanics (Fall 2019)

Website

<http://www.its.caltech.edu/~ph1a/index.htm>

Lecturer

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Course Administrator

Freddy Mora
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Location

Wed/Fri (11:00 am - 11:55 am) @ 201 E. Bridge

Sections

Sections will meet on Monday and Thursday, starting the first Thursday of class. If you decide to change sections, first get the signature of the instructor of the new section on your yellow card. Then get the course administrator to sign the drop column of the yellow card.

Textbook

The Mechanical Universe, Frautschi et al (required)
The Feynman Lectures Vol I & II (optional)

Grading

Total Grade = Homework (20%) + Quizzes (40%) + Final Exam (40%). A total grade of 50% is required to pass. General effort, as well as attendance and performance in recitation, may serve as a basis for extra credit based on the judgement of the instructor.

Homeworks

Deadline: HWs are due Wednesday at 4pm in the box for your section located outside the main lecture hall, 201 E. Bridge. HW will be accepted during the 24hr period preceding the deadline. HW should be labeled with the student's name and section.

Return: Graded HW and quizzes will be returned in the mailboxes in Bridge Annex, except for students who have not waived their FERPA rights. Those students need to pick up their assignments from the course admin directly. Solutions will be made available on the website.

Late policy: Late HW will be accepted up to one week late at half-credit and should be returned to the "Late Homework" box outside 201 E. Bridge. If there are extenuating circumstances (*e.g.* illness), you may request an extension from your TA. If granted, please ask your TA to write a note on your HW before turning it in.

Collaboration: You are encouraged to work with others and seek help where useful but your HW and write-up must be your own and not copied. You may not consult any prepared solutions, either from this or previous years, from Caltech or external sources.

Repository: HW problems are listed on the calendar on the website. Those specified by chapter and problem number (*e.g.* 3.10) are from the Frautschi et al., while those referencing QP1 - QP53 and FP1 - FP23 come from the repository of old quiz and final exam problems on the website. These are also a great resource to gauge the level of difficulty to expect for this year's quizzes and final exam.

Quizzes

Quizzes will be due on these Mondays at noon: October 14, October 28, November 11, and November 25, in the locked box outside 201 E. Bridge. They will be posted on the course website on the preceding Wednesdays after lecture. Problems should be stapled together so you will need a stapler and a supply of blue books. The quiz should be labeled with the student's name, UID number, and section number. The quizzes will cover the material from the previous two weeks. The quizzes must be worked independently without collaboration.

For the quiz you are allowed to use any required or recommended textbooks, your own notes taken during lectures or sections, as well as your own homework. You may use a calculator for numerical calculations only (not algebraic manipulations).

Final Exam

There will be a final exam covering the entire term. The final will be handed out on Wednesday, December 4 at lecture, and will be due at noon on Wednesday, December 11 in the box outside 201 E. Bridge. There will be no midterm exam.

For the final you are allowed to use any required or recommended textbooks, your own notes taken during lectures or sections, as well as your own homework. You may use a calculator for numerical calculations only (not algebraic manipulations).