

**PHYS 1400**  
**Physical Science**  
**Fall 2003**  
**Class: LSC 168, 8:00 - 9:15 TTh**  
**Lab: LSC 112, 9:25-10:40 Th**

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**TEXT:** *Physics Concepts and Connections, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.* 2003, Art Hobson.

### **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

Part of the general education program. Introduces the student to the principles of elementary physics, chemistry, and astronomy. Lecture and laboratory. Fall, spring, summer.

### **WEB PAGE:**

I have established a web page for the course. You should check it frequently. It will contain information that will aid your studies in this course. In addition all assignments and their solutions will be posted on the web page. Assignments will also be announced in class. Solutions will ordinarily be distributed only through the web site.

### **GOALS:**

The goals of the course are well described by the author in his preface: We will develop an understanding of science as a human endeavor in its full philosophical and social context. We will achieve this through critical thinking, hands-on activities and experiments, problem solving, making estimates, situational analysis, writing to learn and other learning strategies.

### **EXPECTATIONS:**

Students are expected to:

- Attend all classes.
- Complete all assignments.
- Take exams and turn in assignments as scheduled.
- Ask me about my material they don't understand.
- Actively participate in the class.

### **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

I expect you to attend all classes. If you know that you will be missing a class, you should discuss it with me before a class is missed. If you miss a class without prior arrangement you are required to provide me with a written explanation. Students who are excessively absent will be

dropped for non-attendance. A written warning will be provided to any student who is in danger of being dropped for non-attendance.

### **PUNCTUALITY:**

I will be on time for class, and will be ready to start at 8:00 and I will finish promptly at 9:15 every class day. Lateness and/or early departures will not be tolerated. Lab meets from 9:25 to 10:40 on Thursday.

### **OFFICE HOURS:**

I am usually in my office from 8:00 to 4:30. You can see me if I am available. If I am not available, my secretary will make an appointment for you. You can also call my secretary at 450-5900 to schedule an appointment.

### **GRADING SYSTEM:**

Grades will be determined by the following:

Three (perhaps four) 100-point tests  
A 200-point, comprehensive final  
0-15 Quizzes worth up to 25 points  
Approximately 25 homework questions worth 1 to 10 points each  
Laboratory Assignments (Experiments 10 points each, Write ups 10 points each)

Tests will include short answers, essays, multiple choice and other common question formats. Homework assignments will be numbered sequentially throughout the course. Assignments will explicitly state the point value of each question. Assignments will be taken from our text, and from a variety of other sources.

The points earned throughout the course will be converted to a percentage. Grades earned will be determined by the following scale:

A 90 +  
B 80-89  
C 70-79  
D 60-69  
F 0-59

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:**

Plagiarism, copying from others on tests, the use of unauthorized materials on tests (cheat sheets, programmed calculators, etc.), or any other form of academic misconduct will not be tolerated. Penalties for academic misconduct are described in the UCA Student Handbook. Penalties can

include grade reduction on an assignment or in a course and can extend to expulsion from UCA. Further details about these procedures are described in the UCA Student Handbook. All that having been said, science is an essentially collaborative endeavor so you are encouraged to collaborate and to seek help from other **students** to complete your assignments, but the final write-up should be your own. If you do obtain help, you should acknowledge it. Such an acknowledgement will not lower your grade. Tests, either in class, or take home, must be entirely your own work

### **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES:**

The University of Central Arkansas adheres to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need an accommodation under this Act due to a disability, contact the UCA Office of Disability Services at 450-3135. In addition, I ask that you confer with me so that we can make appropriate arrangements for any required accommodation.

### **GENERAL POLICIES IN THE STUDENT HANDBOOK:**

Students are expected to be familiar with the general policies of the university. I encourage you to read the UCA Student Handbook where these policies are described. For your convenience, I provide some page references.

Academic Policies (beginning on page 36 of the 2003-2004 Student Handbook)

Sexual Harassment Policy (page 107 of the 2003-2004 Student Handbook)