Department of Physics and Astronomy
Syllabus for PHY 133 Classical Physics Laboratory I, in-person version Sections L01-14 Spring 2026

Course Description: PHY 133: Classical Physics Laboratory I
Two hours of laboratory per week that corresponds to the content of PHY 131 or PHY 125+PHY 126. This course has been designated as a High Demand/Controlled Access (HD/CA) course. Students registering for HD/CA courses for the first time will have priority to do so. This course has an associated fee.
Please see http://www.stonybrook.edu/coursefees for more information.

Pre or corequisite: PHY 125 and PHY 126; or PHY 131 or PHY 141

Credits: 1 credit

Student Learning Objectives:
Students will learn to perform experiments, analyze data, evaluate experimental uncertainties and engage in scientific writing in the fields of mechanics, fluids, waves and thermodynamics.

Stony Brook Curriculum Learning Objectives:
Associated with lecture courses which have the objective
Studying the Natural World (SNW)

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Course Meeting Time: Various. See PHY 133 Website
http://phylabs1.physics.sunysb.edu/introlabs/Spring2026/PHY133.html

Course Instructor: Richard S. Lefferts
Contact: richard.lefferts@stonybrook.edu
Office: A-112 of Physics Building
Office Hours: TBD, in Physics Help Room, Online Meeting or by Appointment

Lab Section Instructors: Teaching assistants, most often graduate students in Physics and Astronomy
For a list with contact information, see course website at
http://phylabs1.physics.sunysb.edu/introlabs/Spring2026/PHY133.html

Required Textbooks and Materials:
**ALL** course materials are available online at
http://phylabs1.physics.sunysb.edu/introlabs/Spring2026/PHY133.html

Recommended Readings:
Students will be doing experiments related to topics in an introductory physics course such as PHY 125, PHY 126, PHY 131 or PHY 141. Textbooks and lecture notes from those courses will provide important background material.

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Course Structure: Students will attend class once per week for the duration of the semester. Attendance is required; accommodations will be made for excused absences only. Students will work with a partner to perform an experiment involving concepts of introductory physics. Students will then submit their own, **individual** report on the experiment.

Assignments and Assessment:

Students will perform 10 experiments and create a report for each lab. These reports will be scored by the graduate teaching assistants. At the end of the semester, these scores will be combined with pre-lab quizzes to create a grade for each student. The course instructor will take into account variation among TA graders to treat different lab sections with a common grade scale.

- 10 Pre-Lab quizzes 15% (total)
- 10 Lab Reports 85% (total)

Details on the lab report format are available on the PHY 133 website http://phylabs1.physics.sunysb.edu/introlabs/Spring2026/PHY133.html

Details on requirements for each specific lab report will be provided by the teaching assistant in their introduction to the experiment on lab day and via Brightspace https://mycourses.stonybrook.edu/d2l/login

Grade Determination: Scores will be scaled to have (approximately) a common mean and spread by factors determined for each teaching assistant/grader. Then a Grading Scale with Grade Thresholds will be applied. This is reviewed and adjusted every semester; in Spring 2025 the ranges were as follows (the value listed is the threshold score as a percentage).
>92.5 A; >89 A-; >84 B+;>75 B; >72 B-; >68 C+; >62 C, >48 D+; >40 D; else F

Communication: Brightspace https://mycourses.stonybrook.edu/d2l/login

- Announcements from the teaching assistant
- Support materials for experiments (videos, notes)
- Pre-lab quizzes
- Submission of lab reports
- Receipt of graded reports and record of scores

PHY 133 Website
http://phylabs1.physics.sunysb.edu/introlabs/Spring2026/PHY133.html

- Course Schedule
- Manuals (instructions) for laboratory experiments
- Guidelines for reports, text on uncertainty & error
- Links to plotting tool, tutorials

SBU Google Apps

E-mail: This course will only use University e-mail for official business
Google Sheets: This course makes extensive use of spreadsheets for data recording and analysis.
Meet, Zoom, Slack: (Possible) teaching assistant office hours

Technical Requirements:

This course uses Brightspace for the facilitation of communications between faculty and students, submission of assignments, and posting of grades. The Brightspace course site can be accessed at https://mycourses.stonybrook.edu/d2l/login .
If you are unsure of your NetID , visit https://it.stonybrook.edu/help/kb/finding-your-netid-and-password more information.

You are responsible for having a reliable computer and Internet connection throughout the term.

Attendance and Late Work Policy:

Attendance to PHY 133 is mandatory. Students who miss a class for an excused reason can perform the experiment during "Make-up" days or by special arrangement with the course instructor.
Lab reports are due 1 week after the scheduled lab class. Late reports are worth 10% less per day past due, after 5 days, after which they will receive 0%.
Details on attendance, the class schedule including Make-up dates and Late Work policy are available on the course website.

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Course and University Policies

Student Accessibility Support Center Statement

If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Student Accessibility Support Center, ECC (Educational Communications Center) Building, Room 128, (631) 632-6748. They will determine with you what accommodations, if any, are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential. Students who require assistance during emergency evacuation are encouraged to discuss their needs with their professors and Student Accessibility Support Center. For procedures and information go to the following website: http://www.stonybrook.edu/ehs/fire/disabilities.

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Academic Integrity Statement:

Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty is required to report any suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. Faculty in the Health Sciences Center (School of Health Technology & Management, Nursing, Social Welfare, Dental Medicine) and School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty please refer to the academic judiciary website
https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/academic_integrity/

**Important Note: Any form of academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, will be reported to the Academic Judiciary.**

Statement on use of Generative AI:

Using artificial intelligence tools is a natural part of modern academic work.

Submitting AI generated content as one's own, without citation, however, is unacceptable and will be regarded as a form of plagiarism, subject to the University Academic Integrity Policy.
https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/academic_integrity/

Critical Incident Management:

Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students' ability to learn.

Further information about most academic matters can be found in the Undergraduate Bulletin, the Undergraduate Class Schedule, and the Faculty-Employee Handbook.

Understand When You May Drop This Course :

It is the student's responsibility to understand when they need to consider dis-enrolling from a course. Refer to the Stony Brook Academic Schedule for dates and deadlines for registration:
https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/registrar/calendars/academic_calendars

Incomplete Policy:

Under emergency/special circumstances, students may petition for an incomplete grade. Circumstances must be documented and significant enough to merit an Incomplete. If you need to request an incomplete for this course, contact the instructor for approval as far in advance as possible.

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Course Materials and Copyright Statement:

Course material accessed from Brightspace, SB Connect, SB Capture or a Stony Brook Course website is for the exclusive use of students who are currently enrolled in the course. Content from these systems cannot be reused or distributed without written permission of the instructor and/or the copyright holder. Duplication of materials protected by copyright, without permission of the copyright holder is a violation of the Federal copyright law, as well as a violation of Stony Brook's policy on Academic Integrity.

Communications Guidelines:

The course instructor and lab section instructors will conduct themselves according to the standards in the Stony Brook University Faculty Handbook https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/provost/faculty/handbook/

Students will conduct themselves according to the standards in the Stony Brook University Code of Student Responsibility https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/studentaffairs/ucs/conduct.php

SUMMARY

Consult **Brightspace** Frequently
https://mycourses.stonybrook.edu/d2l/login

Consult the Course Webpage Frequently
http://phylabs1.physics.sunysb.edu/

Welcome to PHY 133!