Physics 231 Laboratory Syllabus

Time
Day: Tuesday
Laboratory: 4:40pm-6:35pm

Instructor
Paul Drazba  pdrazba@utk.edu
Office Hours: Wednesday 1:15pm-2:25pm, or by appointment
Physics Tutorial Center (Nielsen 201)
TA Office: Nielsen 603-5

Course Description
This is the supplemental laboratory phase of the Physics 231 course. The purpose of this laboratory is to expose you, in a hands-on laboratory setting, to the physics topics covered in lecture. You will be required to perform experiments covering a wide range of physics concepts in electricity and magnetism and electronics.

Course Materials
All of you should have a copy of the laboratory manual by Dr. James Parks appropriate to Physics 231. Please make sure to bring this book to every laboratory session. Also, you will be allowed to use a scientific or graphing calculator.

Laboratory
You are expected to read the experiment before coming to the lab session. Generally you will work in pairs to perform the experiments. I want partners to collaborate and have equal contribution when performing the experiments. At the end of the lab, data sheets may be printed out or sent electronically to another computer. Lab reports are due at the beginning of the following lab. Every student must write their OWN lab report. I will also assign questions from the end of each lab that must be answered and handed in at the following lab period.

Lab Reports
At the start of every laboratory session, you will be required to hand in a lab report over the previous week’s experiment. This lab report will need to include all of the following:
Heading: Title, your name and your partner’s name, and the date you performed the experiment
Introduction: a clear statement about the scientific objective of the lab and a little on the theory behind it including relevant equations, variables and units
Procedure: Don’t quote the manual word for word, summarize what you did. Keep it short!
Data: All relevant data, analysis and graphs
Results: An analysis of the results. What does the data say happened? Include possible sources of error.
Conclusion: What did you learn in the lab? Argue the significance of your results.

Attendance
Lab attendance is mandatory. I expect you to show up on time for every recitation and lab session. Do not be late. If you must miss lab due to extenuating circumstances (i.e. serious injury, illness, or a death in the family) it is your responsibility to contact me as soon as possible. I may allow you to make up the laboratory during the same week.

**Grading Procedure**
Lab reports will constitute the entirety of your grade in this course.

**Classroom Policies**
Please respect your fellow students and please respect me. Do not come to class late. Do not talk when I am talking. Turn off your cell phones, beepers, and MP3 players and pay attention!

**Academic Honesty**
All students are expected to abide by the University Honor Statement. I will not tolerate cheating of any kind. In this course, cheating might include making up data, copying off your neighbor on quizzes, or handing in a lab report that is partially or fully identical to another student’s. If I catch you cheating, I will assign you a zero for whatever it is you are cheating on. A second offense will result in a grade of zero for the laboratory portion of the course and a report to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs.