Course Description

This laboratory class approximately parallels the lecture class PHYS 1500 Energy & Matter. You must take the lecture class either as a pre-requisite or a co-requisite. It is designed to meet the General Education requirements in the physical sciences and is intended as an introduction for non-scientists. The course content assumes basic educational competencies equivalent to those of an entering college freshman.

Instructor and Text

Lab Section 1: T 2:30–5:38 pm
Instructor: Christopher De Vries
Office: S-257
Phone: 667-3553
Email: chris@physics.csustan.edu
Office Hours: MW 2:30 – 3:30 pm, R 6:30 – 7:30 pm, or by appointment
Text: You will receive handouts for the labs.

Grading

Assessment in this class will be based on weekly lab reports and bi-weekly quizzes. 70% of your grade will come from the lab reports and 30% from the quizzes. There will be no extra credit. Letter grades will not include +/- modifiers. You may make up one lab and one quiz at the end of the semester, if you miss more than one lab or quiz it will count against you.

Lab Reports

Lab reports should be done on the worksheets provided. If they are messy you will lose points — neatness counts. Make clear, neat, tables, labeling them and including the units of the quantities. Graphs must be drawn on graph paper which we will provide. Each axis of a graph should be labeled and include units. Lab reports are due at the end of class.

Most labs will have questions for you to answer. You will be graded on the quality of these answers. Single word answers are usually not good answers. Please put some thought into your answers and explain them.