

How to Succeed in PHYS 6310

- 1) The course material is divided up into Sessions, which are somewhat like the regular lecture periods you are used to. The Sessions have a lecture video, normally 30-35 minutes long. I also included the lecture slides in case you have difficulty seeing them in the lecture video. You may not ever need to watch the lecture slides. I have also provided videos of my working out end of chapter problems. There tend to be about two of these per session. I have done these separately from the lecture videos, partly to shorten the lecture videos, but also to allow me to write the solutions out carefully and legibly and give my thought processes while doing so.
- 2) It is absolutely essential for you to watch the lecture and problem solution videos, possibly more than once if you have difficulty with the material.
- 3) There is a textbook assigned for this course, and the reading assignments are given in the syllabus. You can see the syllabus on Collab, and there is also a link to it on the Class Website. You need to study the textbook and make sure you understand all the Examples.
- 4) I believe in conceptual learning and being able to solve numerical problems. The conceptual learning comes from the lecture videos and slides and from reading the textbook carefully. The numerical help comes from studying the textbook examples and doing the homework.
- 5) The homework is done on WebAssign and is due weekly. There is a lot of homework. It is always due at 5 am in the morning to avoid arguments about the clock. You will be told on what day of the week the homework is due, because I vary it for different classes. Sometimes I extend the deadline for the homework for various reasons like holidays, etc. I will let you know in advance when I do that.
- 6) Exams. There will be two or three midterm exams and a final exam for this course. All the exams are done on WebAssign. Most likely you will need a Proctor for the exam, and I will send information about this. I also have practice exams for this course that you will be able to see on Collab a week or so before the exam. I have them hidden from you now. There are versions both with and without the answers. I give you these practice exams so you will have an idea about what is on the exams. There are both conceptual and numerical questions. Most problems are multiple choice.
- 7) You can ask questions about the course, physics and homework on the Discussion link on Collab. Please ask questions about the course and physics under Worksite Discussions and questions about homework under Questions. Brent Walter and I look at this site daily to see if there are questions. Students are encouraged to answer each other's questions or comment, and Brent or I will do the same.
- 8) I sometimes receive questions from students who are struggling a bit. There is one other resource you might be able to use. There are *Student Study Guide & Selected Solutions Manual* for the Giancoli, 4th ed textbook for both PHYS 6310 and 6320. The author is Frank L.H. Wolfs. The ISBN for Volume I (6310) is ISBN-13: 978-0-13-227324-4 and for Volumes II & III (6320)

is ISBN-13: 978-0-13-227325-1. I believe you can obtain these books from the publisher, Pearson/Prentice Hall.

For each chapter there are a chapter overview with learning objectives, a summary of chapter equations, a section-by-section chapter summary, a practice quiz, and responses to select odd-numbered end-of-chapter questions and solutions to select odd-numbered end-of-chapter problems.

It might also be useful to find another textbook and study it, especially the worked out examples. It does not have to be the latest edition of a textbook. You can probably check it out of a library or buy it cheaply online.