INSTRUCTOR: Dr. John E. Poling. I am an Emeritus Professor and this quarter my office is in the new science building (180-509). The phone for that office is 756-1357, but I share the office and will not actually be there except for office hours.

The best way to contact me is by email (jpoling@calpoly.edu), and be sure to write “phys 211” in the subject line.

You will find a link to the web page I make for Phys 211-02 on my personal web page (http://www.calpoly.edu/~jpoling).

TEXT: Modern Physics, J. Taylor, C. Zafiratos, and M. Dubson, 2nd Ed.

OFFICE HOURS: I encourage you to come to my office hours for help with the course whenever you are having difficulty. My office hours will be announced in class, posted next to my office door, listed on a data sheet in the Physics Department Office, and listed on my web page. Additional office hours will be by appointment.

EXAMS: I will give you three midterm exams, and a final exam. The midterm exams will probably be on the following dates: E1 on Wednesday 1/22, E2 on Wednesday 2/12, and E3 on Monday 3/10. Any changes in those dates will be announced at least one week before the scheduled date. Most of the questions on the midterm exams will be similar to the homework that was assigned, or similar to the example problems in the chapters, or similar to example problems I work in lecture. There will usually be a few conceptual questions in addition to the problems. I may also tell you to study a few specific derivations which I might ask questions about on an exam. If you are able to work most of the assigned homework problems and the text and lecture examples by the time an exam is given, you should do reasonably well on the numerical problems. You will need to study your notes and/or the text to do well on conceptual questions and derivations.

The final exam will be as scheduled, which is on Friday 3/21 from 1:10-4:00 pm. I will not offer the final exam early for any reason. The final exam will cover the material in the three lectures after the third midterm but will mostly be a second chance on the material covered by the three midterm exams, so you will need to make sure you know how to do all of the questions and problems on the midterms. If I decide to ask anything beyond what was actually on the three midterms, I will tell you what to study in addition to the midterms.

You should bring your calculator to each exam. You should also bring a single three inch by five inch card of notes and equations to first midterm, two cards to the second midterm, and three cards to the third midterm and to the final exam. I will provide any constants needed for the problems, but I will not provide equations during an exam. The cards must be no larger than three by five inches and must be hand written (you may write on both sides of each card). I do not allow photocopied or computer printed cards. Space will be provided on the exam papers for you to answer the questions and work the problems. You must work the problems beginning with fairly basic equations. You must not work a problem with a higher level equation which was found by combining two or more basic equations without showing the work to find the higher level equation. You must always show all of your work for each problem.

Forgetting your calculator or your note card/s will cause you a very serious handicap. Try not to put yourself into that position, but if you do please let me know about it before you begin writing the exam. You may be able to borrow a calculator, but you will not be allowed to borrow a note card. I will let you go home and get your note card and begin the exam late if this happens. Once you begin writing the exam you will not be allowed to stop and take the exam later because you forgot something or because you feel unwell. If you have some difficulty, talk with me before you begin writing the exam.
Cell phones must be left in your pack during classes and during exams. Cell phones may not be used as calculators during exams. Having a cellphone out during an exam will be considered cheating. If you need to go to the bathroom during an exam, you must place your cellphone on the front desk while you are out of the room.

If you miss an exam it must be for a very good reason and I will require documentation such as a note from student health or from a doctors office. Without documentation, I will not offer you a late exam. You must notify me before the scheduled exam time by email (be sure to write “phys 211” in the subject line). You must also communicate with me by email before the next meeting of the class so that we can decide when and where you will take the makeup exam. I will offer you a makeup exam only if you follow all of these rules, and I will offer you only one makeup exam during the quarter. Do not take an exam late unless you absolutely must. Unless you are actually in the hospital or in some other very serious situation, I will not allow you to take a second exam late. If you take an exam late, it will be counted as an absence on the day of the exam.

If you are having significant health or personal problems which may interfere with your work this quarter, please communicate with me early in the quarter. I may be able to help you in some way with respect to successfully completing the work for this class.

**HOMEWORK:** Assigned homework problems will be listed on the web page I make for this course. I will not collect or grade the assigned homework. Answers to all odd problems are provided in the back of the text. I will provide my own handwritten solutions for all of the assigned problems on the web page, and these solutions will be available while you are working on the homework. If you are having difficulty with a problem, you could take a quick look at my solution on the web as a hint to get you going again and then try to finish the problem on your own. If you are really stuck then go ahead and read through my solution and try to understand what I did, but hopefully you will not need to do that very often. Just reading through my solutions will probably not get you through the exams - you need to struggle through these problems mostly on your own. Even if you have successfully worked a problem and found the correct answer I think you should look through my solution to see if you can learn more or understand better. If you are having difficulty with the homework problems, you should visit me during my office hours or you should go to the learning center for help - don’t wait until the day before an exam to try to get help. If you are having serious difficulty with this course you may want to get a tutor. The Physics Department office keeps a list of Physics Majors who tutor.

**DERIVATION ASSIGNMENTS:** You are required to turn in five of these assignments. Each derivation is worth 3 points, and $5 \times 3 = 15$ course points. You may hand in more than five derivations if you wish, and I will keep the best five scores.

**ATTENDANCE:** I will take attendance at most lectures and I will give you 9 extra credit points if you miss no more than two lectures. These extra credit points are a small gift from me for good attendance. Each class missed beyond the first two will cost you 3 of the extra credit points. The first two lectures you miss will not be excused for any reason, even if you have a documented reason for missing. If you miss more than two lectures and can provide formal written documentation of an acceptable reason (doctors appointment, class field trip, athletic team travel, etc.) I will excuse the absence.

**YOUR GRADE:** Advisory grading scales (without +/-) for the midterm exams will be announced in class to give you some idea of how well you are doing as the quarter progresses. I will use +/- grading for your course grades at the end of the quarter.