13005-154(16) Introductory Physics for Biological Sciences B (3l, 3p)

2015

Course summary:

Selected topics, relevant to the biological sciences, from introductory electricity, magnetism, thermodynamics, gas laws, atomic physics, radioactivity, oscillations and waves.

Continuous assessment
P Physics (Bio) 134

Outcomes of course:

The student will be:
1. able to correctly use the terminology associated with the subject.
2. equipped with problem-solving skills that can be applied within the subject.
3. able to integrate concepts thereby making the topic relevant and applicable.
4. given the opportunity to develop his/her writing, language and communication skills.
5. able to perform plausible experiments.
6. able to apply the scientific method to obtain data, which can be analyzed mathematically.

Lecturers:

Prof RT Newman (Eng)
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Prof BIS van der Ventel (Afr)
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Dr A Du Plessis (Afr)
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Course content:

11. Vibrations and Waves. (Giancoli Chapter 11)
11.1. Simple Harmonic Motion (SHM)
11.2. Energy in the Simple Harmonic Oscillator
11.3. The Period and Nature of SHM
11.4. The Simple Pendulum
11.5. Damped Harmonic Motion
11.6. Forced Vibrations; Resonance
11.7. Wave motion - general definitions
11.8. Types of waves: transverse and longitudinal
11.9. Energy transported by waves
11.10. Reflection and transmission of waves
11.11. Interference; Principle of Superposition
11.12. Standing waves; Resonance

12. Sound. (Giancoli Chapter 12)

12.1. Characteristics of sound
12.2. Intensity of sound: decibels
12.3. Sources of sound: vibrating strings and air columns
12.4. Interference of sound waves; beats
12.5. Doppler effect
12.6. Applications of sound

13. Temperature and kinetic theory. (Giancoli Chapter 13)

13.1. Atomic theory of matter
13.2. Temperature and thermometers
13.3. Thermal expansion
13.4. The gas laws and absolute temperature
13.5. The ideal gas law
13.6. Problem solving with the ideal gas law
13.7. Ideal gas law in terms of molecules: Avogadro's number
13.8 Kinetic theory and the molecular interpretation of temperature

14. Heat. (Giancoli Chapter 14)

14.1. Heat as energy transfer
14.2. Internal energy
14.3. Specific heat
14.4. Calorimetry - solving problems
14.5. Latent heat
14.6. Heat transfer: conduction
14.7. Heat transfer: convection
14.8. Heat transfer: radiation

16. Electric charges and Coulomb's law (Giancoli Chapter 16)

16.1. Electric charge and its conservation, insulators and conductors, induced charge
16.2. Coulomb's law, vectors, examples of calculations
16.3. Electric field, electrostatics, field lines, electric fields and conductors

17. Electric potential, electric energy and capacitance (Giancoli Chapter 17)

17.1. Electric potential, difference, electric potential and field, electron volt, electric potential due to point charges
17.2. Capacitance, dielectrics, storage of electric energy

18. Electric currents (Giancoli Chapter 18)

18.1. Electric current, Ohm's law, resistivity,
18.2. Electric Power
18.3. Microscopic view of electric current

19. Electric currents (Giancoli Chapter 19)

19.1. EMF and terminal voltage
19.2. Resistors in series and parallel
19.3. Kirchhoff’s rules
19.4. Capacitors in series and parallel
19.5. Resistor and capacitor in series

20. Magnetism and electromagnetic induction (Giancoli Chapters 20 and 21)

20.1. Magnets, magnetic fields, electric currents produce magnetic fields
20.2. Force on an electric current in a magnetic field, between two parallel wires
20.3. Definition of the ampére and the coulomb
20.4. Induced EMF, Faraday's law
20.5. Changing magnetic flux produces an electric field

Practical (Tutorials):

Practical and tutorial schedules will be available on SUNLearn (http://learn.sun.ac.za) at the start of the semester.

Study material:

Handbook: **Physics** - *Giancoli - 6th edition* – Pearson/**Prentice Hall**
Software that is available via the intranet and on CD.

Learning opportunities:

1. Lectures
2. Tutorials
3. Practicals

All lectures are in the **Merensky Building** for Physics at the following venues:

Lecture Hall Room number Level

Lecture halls allocated are available on MyMaties

All practicals and tutorials are in the **Merensky Building** for Physics.

The practical and tutorial schedule and venues will be handed out at the beginning of the second semester, and will be made available on the module pages on SUNLearn.

Assessment:

Methods of Assessments

1. Class tests
2. Tutorial tests
3. Practical assessments (short reports, tests)

Venue and time of assessment opportunities

Available on MyMaties

Calculation of final mark for the module:

Class tests: 50%
Tutorial tests: 15%
Practicals assessments: 35%