

General Physical Sciences
PSCI 1114.5
SYLLABUS

Spring 2005

Dr. J. Tim Smith
Office: S209
tsmith@sosu.edu

I. COURSE OBJECTIVES

- A. Explore how scientific ideas develop historically (Gen Ed Outcome #8).
- B. Present the student with an insight as to how science functions, under what conditions important advances are made, and why scientific theories change from time to time.
- C. To present some key concepts of physical science and demonstrate their relevance in everyday life (Gen Ed Outcome #11).
- D. Develop the fundamental approaches to problem solving in the sciences, including mathematical applications (Gen Ed Outcome #3).

II. COURSE OUTLINE

**** **This course requires enrollment and completion of the laboratory portion.** ****

A. PHYSICS (Chapters 1-4)

- 1. What is Science?
- 2. Motion
- 3. Energy
- 4. Heat and Temperature

B. CHEMISTRY (Chapters 8-11)

- 1. Atoms and Periodic Properties
- 2. Chemical Bonds
- 3. Chemical Reactions
- 4. Water and Solutions

C. ASTRONOMY (Chapters 14)

- 1. The Universe

III. GRADING SYSTEM

A. Evaluation Procedures

- 1. Homework assignments will be taken up and graded at random. Late assignments will not be excepted.
- 2. Quizzes will typically be given weekly and may be unannounced. The top ten quizzes and homework will be used for your grade. No make-ups will be given for quizzes. If you miss a quiz or homework it will count as one you drop. Typically 13-15 assignments

are graded throughout the semester.

3. Exams

- a. There will be four exams, typically given at the end of each section (Physics will have 2 exams).
- b. Your lowest hour exam will be dropped.
- c. The final exam will be given during finals week and will be comprehensive. If your exam average is above 80%, you are not required to take the final exam.

B. Grading Standards

1. Each exam will be worth 15 % of your total letter grade (3x = 45 %).
2. The final exam will represent 20 % of your total letter grade.
3. The Laboratory portion of the class will be worth 20 % of your total letter grade.
4. Homework assignments and quizzes will represent 15 % of your total letter grade.
5. **The following percentages are required to earn the letter grade:**

A>85.0%; 84.9%>**B**>75.0%; 74.9%>**C**>65.0%; 64.9%>**D**>50.0%; **F**<50.0%.

IV. CLASS POLICIES

A. Attendance

1. Regular class attendance is expected by all students.
2. Attendance during exams is required, unless prior arrangements are made. No make-up exams will be given.
3. Excused absences on exams must be pre-approved.

B. Cheating will not be tolerated and will result in the reduction of the overall letter grade or dismissal from the class. All cases will be pursued to the fullest extent with the Vice President of Student Affairs.

V. TEXT

A. Course: *Physical Sciences*, Tillery, sixth edition, McGraw Hill, 2005, ISBN 0-07-250978-3.

B. Laboratory: *Experiments in the Physical Sciences* is available from the campus bookstore.

VI. RESOURCES

A. Tillery has an on-line web-based student resource center at “www.mhhe.com/tillery”. You will need to perform the student registration to complete and submit the on-line quizzes. The resources include sample problems with solutions, illustrations, quizzes, and animations. You are encouraged to use this resource to your advantage.

VII. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Any student needing special accommodations due to a physical, mental or learning disability should contact Mrs. Susan Dodson, the Coordinator for Student Disability Services, Hallie McKinney, Room 111B or call (580) 745-2394 (TDD# 745-2704). It is the responsibility of each student to make an official request to the Coordinator for academic accommodations.

PSCI 1114.5
Spring 2005

I have read Dr. Smith's syllabus and understand the attendance, exams, and grading policies.

NAME _____ Date _____

ID Number _____