

HOW DO I PASS PHYSICS 208?

In order to do well in Physics 208, you must learn to work problems that test your knowledge of, and ability to apply, the physics covered in this course.

By the time of an exam, you should be able to work any of the problems in the book WITHOUT looking back in the chapter, talking to friends, looking on the web, etc.

When you believe you are ready for an exam, pick problems you have NOT tried to work previously, and see that you can work them. Do this for a selection of problems covering the material on the test. If you cannot work them, you will fail the test!!!

For each exam there will be an extra set of problems in MasteringPhysics just for practice and tutoring.

How NOT to pass Physics 208:

1. Don't come to lecture.
2. Don't study Physics 208 until some work is actually due.
3. Don't do the homework.
4. When working a problem, first look at an equation sheet to see which equations might have the right variables.
5. Get help working all the problems, then don't do more problems without help. (help here includes other people, the book, the web).
6. Count on the exam problems being a few easy ones that you (think) you know how to work.
7. Fail the laboratory. (Grade < 60 in lab is an automatic F!)

How to do well in Physics 208:

1. Read the material BEFORE the lecture. Ask questions during lecture about those things you do not understand.
2. Study 208 and work homework problems as the material is covered in lecture. DO NOT GET BEHIND.
3. Do all the homework AND make sure you can work problems without help.
4. When working a problem, first figure out which physics principles are involved and how they apply.
5. Get all the help you need (Prof, friends, recitation instructor, tutors, web). Then work more problems without help. Continue this until you can work problems you have not tried without help.
6. Count on the exam problems to be ones you did not expect, but can figure out since you have properly prepared.
7. Do the labs!