

READINGS IN PHYSICS – MCAT REVIEW

880:189g, Section 80

Spring 2003

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Michael W. Roth and Dr. Andrea Pascarella

OFFICE: Physics 305

OFFICE HOURS: M,W,F, 9A.M.-11A.M. and by appointment.

PHONE: 273-7336

E-MAIL: rothm@uni.edu

MEETING SPACETIME INFORMATION: 11 A.M.–12:50 P.M Th in Physics 301 for first half semester

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The Readings in Physics – MCAT Review covers an overview of MCAT tests and test-taking strategies and physics content, with an emphasis on problem solving.

OBJECTIVES: The mission of Readings in Physics – MCAT Review is to spark interest in the eyes of students, to have students question and analyze the world around them, to have students think, and for the class to be an experience far deeper than just a series of meetings and deadlines. At a more pragmatic level, the class is designed to push students towards excellence in the physics portion of the MCAT.

RECOMMENDED READING MATERIALS: MCAT Lesson books, Review notes from Kaplan Medical as well as various MCAT practice examinations.

PREREQUISITE(S): Prerequisites: junior standing; written consent of department head; maximum of 3 hours may be applied to a physics major or minor.

SPECIAL NEEDS: The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1999 (ADA) provides protection from illegal discrimination for qualified individuals with disabilities. If you have any condition such as a physical or learning disability, which will prevent the fullest expression of your abilities or will require academic accommodations and would like to request instructional accommodation due to disabilities, you must arrange for such accommodation through the Office of Disability Services, 213 Student Services Center, Tel. 273-2676.

GRADING: Readings in Physics – MCAT review is a pass/fail course. Students must attend and participate in all the sessions to pass. If a student misses class for a valid reason the session may be made up with either instructor.

GENERAL PHILOSOPHY: In a nutshell, I believe in having fun while teaching and learning physics. I want you to do your best in a subject that is not easy. If you get behind and the class feels like a diesel tractor pulling you through mud, feel free to use me as a resource to help you. Although I love to do research, your learning and class performance is more important! Asking questions in class is strongly encouraged. If you don't wish to ask questions in class please come by my office, give me a call, make an appointment or even send me anonymous e-mail! Also, I like to talk a little about related contemporary issues in class, so if you've found an interesting newspaper clipping or watched a good documentary you'd like to share with us, please mention that. The most entertaining to me are tabloid articles that beg to be de-bunked using physics. I hope you find that physics is everywhere around you and not just in a class you had to take.

INSTRUCTOR'S STATEMENT: The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus in a reasonable fashion and in the best interest of the class.

MCAT REVIEW SCHEDULE – SPRING 2003

Week	Day	Date	Topic(s)
1	Th.	Jan. 16	Introduction/Logistics; Kinematics
2	Th.	Jan. 23	Forces; Energy
3	Th.	Jan. 30	Momentum; Fluids
4	Th.	Feb. 6	Waves and Oscillations; Heat and Thermodynamics
5	Th.	Feb. 13	Electrostatics; Circuits
6	Th.	Feb. 20	Magnetism; Optics
7	Th.	Feb. 27	Atomic Physics; Nuclear Physics and Radioactivity