

On-Line Homework Instructions for Physics 1250/1251 (1240/1241)

Homework will be submitted and graded via the on-line software package WebAssign.

ACCESSING WEBASSIGN:

Access Code and Grace Period: A registration access code is required to use WebAssign, but at the beginning of the semester there is a short grace period of about two weeks in which an access code is not required. See **Access Card** below for details.

Registering in WebAssign: Access WebAssign through the **link** provided on **Carmen**.

Problems with WebAssign: Contact the WebAssign Administrator in the Physics Department, Dr. Bolland (bolland.1@osu.edu), if you encounter difficulties when you try to log into WebAssign or have any other technical issues. Please contact Dr. Bolland **ONLY** if you believe there is a problem with WebAssign itself. Consult your recitation instructor or lecturer or tutor for help with the homework.

Access Card: As stated above, you may use WebAssign without a registration access code for a short **grace period** (see above), but you will need to get an access code, found on a WebAssign **access card**. WebAssign will prompt you for an access code each time you log in until you either enter it correctly or the grace period expires (WebAssign will list the number of days left before the grace period expires). If you do not successfully enter the access code before the grace period expires, you will be unable to submit further homework, but the scores for completed homework will not be lost.

An access card is provided as part of the valuepack with the textbook when a new textbook is purchased from the local bookstores. This package includes a hard copy of the textbook, access to the **ebook**, and WebAssign access for both 1250 and 1251. The course does not require that you have a hard copy of the textbook, and you do not need to purchase a new textbook to purchase an access card. For options for purchasing an access card with or without purchasing the textbook, go to <http://www.physics.ohio-state.edu/phys1250/> and click **1250 Textbook Options**. Please note that the **ebook** is an integral part of WebAssign; there is no option to access a WebAssign site that does not have the **ebook**.

If you have trouble entering your access code, keep in mind that access codes do NOT begin with the letters ISBN. Also, access codes may contain the number zero or the letter "O". These are not easily distinguishable, so be careful and try both if necessary. If you have difficulty and have made a reasonable effort, please contact the WebAssign administrator.

Once you have correctly entered the registration code, WebAssign will inform you that you are registered for the course. This means that you are registered to use WebAssign for your course; note that this is separate from registration at OSU. If you switch recitation sections after the semester begins, notify the WebAssign administrator, the course manager, and the instructors of both sections.

Once logged in, you will see your personalized WebAssign page showing the Physics class to which you are registered. From this page you can access your assignments and see your grades on assignments.

SUBMITTING ANSWERS TO WEBASSIGN:

WebAssign provides a STUDENT GUIDE online. Read this to familiarize yourself with the package. WebAssign also provides a tutorial so you can learn how the system works (the tutorial may be assigned for credit in your course). Consult both the tutorial and the STUDENT GUIDE for definitive information on how to use the program.

For each question, press "Submit New Answer to Question x" to have WebAssign grade your response to that question and tell you whether it is correct. The button "Submit All New Answers" at the bottom of the page is to have WebAssign grade the whole set of problems instead of submitting each individually. You may submit answers to part or all of the assignment at any time before its due date. Due dates are specified on the course assignment sheet and on WebAssign.

You get **more than one try at each problem**, and your goal is to eventually get it right. The number of tries you have used and may use are shown at the left of each problem (click the + to see **Submissions Used**). If you find yourself getting close to the limit, you should get help from your lecturer, your recitation instructor, the tutor room, or any friendly physics-speaking person you can find.

Responses should be either in decimal numbers or the **"E" format for scientific notation**.

For example: Enter "0.5" NOT "1/2".

For example: Enter "1E-3" NOT "10^-3".

WebAssign checks your answer to see if it is within 1% of the correct answer. As you calculate, you should **keep at least 4 significant figures** in intermediate steps and enter your answer to at least 3 significant figures, even if there are fewer significant figures in the problem.

Failure to submit an answer for a problem or part of a problem results in a ZERO for that part or problem. Also, WebAssign records the grade for the LAST answer submitted, even if that answer is incorrect and a previous answer is correct.

POLICIES REGARDING ONLINE HOMEWORK:

In order to administer the WebAssign homework fairly and consistently to thousands of students, the Ohio State University Physics Department follows the following policies:

Due dates are specified on the course assignment sheet or by your lecturer. You may work on any assignment up to its due date/time. **NO EXTENSIONS** will be granted for online homework assignments. Assignments may be viewed but are no longer available to be worked on after the due date.

You may be **excused** from an online homework assignment ONLY in the following special cases:

- enrolling late in a course
- hospitalization
- extended illness of the student --- (requires a physician's note stating that the student should be excused from school for that week)
- death of a parent or sibling
- military duty for the entire week.

Should one of the above special cases arise, contact the course manager with appropriate documentation in order to obtain an excuse.

Also, if you find that you are not in the database and fail to contact the administrator, you will receive zero for your homework grade.

ONLINE HOMEWORK GRADES

The points on WebAssign are not the same as points in the class. Your homework score for the class is calculated by multiplying the possible homework points by the percent of the WebAssign points that you earned. If you are excused from an assignment (see POLICIES above), this information will not appear on WebAssign but will be included in calculating your homework score.

WebAssign Administrator: Dr. Bolland (bolland.1@osu.edu) – Contact Dr. Bolland only for access and technical assistance.

Course Manager: Dr. Ziegler (614-292-2067, ziegler.2@osu.edu) – Contact Dr. Ziegler only about excuses from homework as given in the list above.