Welcome to Physics 211!

We hope you had a fantastic summer and are ready for a great semester.

This course has several components and even requires you to do some work before the first lecture, so we wanted to give you a heads-up via email.

Everything you need to know about the course can be found on our course website

http://courses.physics.illinois.edu/phys211/

The “Schedule” link is very helpful in showing all of the course activities and when they are due. When in doubt, check this link. You will see that labs begin the week of August 21st, and discussion sections will begin the week of August 28th.

Our first lecture is Tuesday, August 22nd. To make the best use of our lecture time, we ask you to prepare by completing a pre-lecture and checkpoint before 8:00 am the day of the lecture. These are delivered via smart.physics.illinois.edu, you should be automatically enrolled in the course (24 hours after registering for the course). Please do the first pre-lecture and checkpoint activities before 8:00 AM on Tuesday. But don’t panic if you have technical difficulties and cannot complete the assignment or don’t have an iclicker yet. We understand that the start of the semester is hectic, and we will be sure that you don’t lose any points for the first week of lectures.

We will request that you keep your cell phones and laptops stored during lectures as they interfere with your own and others’ learning (tablets will be permitted if in tablet mode for taking written notes). Please look at the “Required Materials” link on the course website – this provides detailed information about the materials you will need for the course, as well as options to reduce the cost. In particular, please note that we have placed some IOLabs on reserve in the Grainger library. You are not allowed to take them out of the library, so you can’t bring them to the lab. But you can use them for the prelab assignments, which we hope makes it easier for students to share IOLabs for the lab part and reduce the cost.

That's it for now.

We look forward to seeing you in the lecture on Tuesday!

Professors Tim Stelzer and Jorge Noronha

(Your PHYS 211 Lecturers)