

## Welcome to Physics 211!

We hope you are having a fantastic break and are ready for a great semester in another week.

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.

Please click on this short video [link](#) that covers some of the course logistics right now. It is only a few minutes long and includes important information about navigating the course website and the required materials.

**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 **January 15<sup>th</sup>**, and **discussion** sections will begin the week of **January 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Our first **lecture** is **Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>**. 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](http://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 options to reduce the cost of the iclicker and the IOLab.

Iclicker: **On January 15, there will be a used iClicker buy/sell event in the Loomis Laboratory of Physics 1<sup>st</sup> floor lobby/Loomis 141 from 11 AM to 2 PM.** All students are invited to come and buy or sell a used, working iclicker for the recommended price of \$20. It is unknown how many iClickers will be available, since supply depends on how many students show up to sell. Students interested in buying an iClicker should be prepared to purchase an iClicker elsewhere (ex. at the University bookstore or online) if supplies run out at this event.

IOLab: We have placed some IOLabs on reserve in the Grainger library. These can be used to complete all of the prelab activities (but must be used in the library). They are also available to rent from Macmillan, and I've seen some used ones online (ebay) that are cheaper than renting for both 211 and 212 (plus you can sell them at the end).

That's it for now.

Enjoy your final week of break and we look forward to seeing you in the lecture on Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>!

Professors Tim Stelzer and Antonios Tsokaros

(Your PHYS 211 Lecturers)