Welcome to Physics 211!

I hope everyone had a happy and healthy break, and welcome back to a hopefully mostly normal semester! We hope that, like us, you’re looking forward to what should be a fun and successful term.

This email is meant to communicate a few course details to you. We’ll cover much of this again during zoom lecture on Tuesday, and you can always find this information on the course website. If you find yourself with a burning question that is not answered by this email, please check the course web page before sending us an email.

Our first lecture will be held on zoom (see below for links) on Tuesday, January 18. However, this will not be your first contact with the course. Prior to each lecture, you’ll be engaging with the material by completing prelectures and checkpoints delivered via SmartPhysics and due at 8 am on each day of lecture (starting with the first lecture). You should automatically have access to the course, and you have 14 days from the first day of classes to follow the directions on the required materials page to pay for the material and keep your access.

Between lectures 1 and 2, you should watch the recorded video lectures on the course mediaspace channel covering the material that is normally presented in the week 1 lectures (the topics in prelecture 1 (1-D kinematics) and 2 (vectors and 2-D kinematics) on smartPhysics).

Lecture 2 on Thursday, January 20 will be optional open office hours (see below for zoom links). Please come to ask any and all questions you have. Homework 0 is due at 8 am the morning of lecture 2. All homeworks are on SmartPhysics.

As you’ll see on the course schedule, in week 2 you have in-person discussion (and an online lab assignment in SmartPhysics). In-person lab begins in week 3. Note that you will need to obtain an iOLab device by your first in-person lab. You can learn more about labs and discussions on the course description page and you will get additional emails about those components of the course next week.
Regular homeworks will be due each week (starting week 2) on Tuesday mornings at 8 am. Working together on the homework is strongly encouraged. We’ll be offering a large number of office hours (starting week 2) to help you get past any stumbling blocks you encounter as you’re working through the homework and preparing for exams.

You should also go to the Required Materials link on the course website for more information about iclickers and iOLab devices. Any version (new or used) of the iclicker is fine to use (but not the iclicker cloud or app). Bring your iclicker to lecture starting with the first in person lecture on 1/25. You should register your iclicker by using the link in the course gradebook, details about how to do this are on the iclicker page. If your iclicker is not registered by lecture 3, there's no need to worry – once you register it you will get credit for all the times you used it this semester.

That's about it for now. We look forward to seeing you next week!

Profs. Elizabeth Goldschmidt and Eric Kuo (your Physics 211 lecturers), Prof. Bryce Gadway (Discussion Coordinator), and Prof. Anne Sickles (Lab Coordinator)

Zoom links for week 1 lectures (you must be logged into your illinois.edu account to access these):

- 9 am
- 10 am
- 11 am
- 12 pm