

# Physics 381

Computer Applications for Scientists

Autumn, 2008

**Instructor:** Mike Jones

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**Office Hours:** At least one-hour immediately prior to class time in the classroom. Otherwise, e-mail is the best way to contact me.

**Course Format:** Lecture, 1 hour; Laboratory, 3 hours.

**Prerequisites:** PHYS 114 and MATH 211

**Objectives** The student is introduced to high-level programming languages C++, MATLAB/Octave, Mathematica and L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X. Applications to various problems in physics and mathematics are studied.

**Textbook:** We will use online materials strictly

**Attendance:** If you miss a class it is your responsibility to find out (from a classmate) what you missed. Absences will be excused only for reasons such as serious illness. If a student misses the midterm exam because of an excused absence, the student's grade on the midterm exam will be determined either by assigning a score according to their performance on the final exam or by a make-up exam, at my discretion.

**Homework/Lab Reports:** Homework Problems and/or Lab Reports are due one week from the date assigned unless otherwise noted. At my discretion late assignments may be accepted at reduced credit. Students are to work independently. If problems are encountered, the student should contact the instructor.

**Grades:** Course grades are computed as follows:

- 1st Report—10% total
- 2 Major Reports—25% each
- Final Report—40%

**Final Exam:** All students are required to turn in a Final Exam/Project/Report due at the end of the assigned examination period.

**Other Information:** There are important University policies that you should be aware of, concerning add/drop; cheating and plagiarism, grade appeal; accommodations for students with disabilities and the diversity vision statement.

See: [www.sonoma.edu/uaffairs/policies/studentinfo.shtml](http://www.sonoma.edu/uaffairs/policies/studentinfo.shtml)