Course Description: A survey of the fundamental scientific ideas and principles, and ideas of general physics, astronomy, chemistry and geology. Particular emphasis is placed on the understanding the development of these principles and their application in understanding the world around us.

Prerequisite or co-requisite, one of the following: MATH 103, 107, 205, 220 or 235

Required Text: Physical Science, 5th Ed, Tillery, published by WCB/McGraw-Hill. If you use an earlier edition, you must check to see if the assigned homework problems match in both the editions. I will not grade unassigned problems!!!

Attendance: Attendance is required for all class periods. Should you have a medical condition/emergency situation/participation in a conference or sporting events representing JMU, that you cannot attend the class, you must let me know immediately. Proper documentation (like doctor’s note, court order, schedule of conference/ sports events etc) must be presented. Just sending an email will not be sufficient. You must meet with me in person. It is your responsibility to make up for the work that you missed. I will not extend the deadline for turning in homework or other work assigned in the class unless you have my prior approval.

Grading: Grades for this course will be based on homework assignments, tests, pop-quizzes and student participation. Student participation and pop quizzes are important. You cannot make up for in-class quizzes. There will be typically one homework set per week, consisting of problems from the lectures given during the week. The homework assignments will be handed out every Wednesday, at the end of the lecture and is due the following Wednesday by 1.25pm. Late homeworks will not be accepted. Copying homework solutions from others or other resource materials is not allowed. Copying solutions is a violation of the Honor code and any student caught cheating will be severely penalized. Pop quizzes will be conducted regularly and they will account toward the final grade. There will be two mid-term tests and a final exam. You will also read articles from various scientific journals on a regular basis and to turn in a group report at the end of the semester. I will not CURVE!!!!
Grades:

> 90 : Min A-
80-89.9 : Min B-
70-79.9 : Min C-
60-69.9 : Min D-
<60 : F

Homework Sets : 20%
Midterm Test1 : 15%
Midterm Test2 : 15%
Pop-Quiz : 10%
Article Report : 10%
Attendance, in class participation: 5%
Final Exam : 25%

Make sure that you get all the necessary help from me (if you require) on Monday of the week homework is due. I will not offer any help on the homework after Monday of each week. DONT ask me to help you with the homework the day the homework is due due. I would strongly encourage you to consult with me during my office hours. Feel free to stop by my office. I will not usually offer help over phone/e-mail. So do not email me about questions related to homework problems.

My teaching philosophy is not to make you memorize equations but rather help you understand the basics Physics. I am willing to work with you, if you need extra help. It is difficult course if you do not keep up with the class lectures. Please talk to me if you have any problems understanding the materials presented. It is not a good idea to postpone your questions and doubts, cause you will soon see that the semester days would run through real fast, and I don’t like to see you frustrated over unsolved doubts/questions just before your exams!! ASK QUESTIONS; GET YOUR DOUBTS CLEARED WITHOUT PROCRASTINATION

Copy of the syllabus and all other relevant info is available on the course website; regular updates will be available on the website. Homework problems will be posted there. Make sure you check the website regularly!!!

You will retain 5% of what I say; 50% of what I show you; 90% of what I make you do to understand.
– Ancient Chinese Proverb