MECH 2340 – Dynamics

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Course description: This course covers Newtonian mechanics both kinematic (study of motion) and kinetic (study of force and its effects on motion). The class is intended to make you THINK about why things do what they do. I will spend a lot of time showing how and why things are the way they are. This does not fit well in traditional textbook type problems.

Course Outcomes: At the end of this class the typical student will be able to apply Newtonian mechanics to compute motions of rigid bodies. Textbook methods will be extended to be applicable to problems one might face in practice; however, problems will be simplified to make them tractable in a reasonable length of time. These skills will enable students to work on real world problems. Students will also be able to reason about an object’s motion to make qualitative predictions about how it will behave and be able to use Newtonian methods to defend their position. These logical abilities will enable the graduate to create new systems by understanding how a never before constructed system should behave.

Grading:
Method 1 – For those who do poorly on exams.
Mid-term exams - 3 exams
Final exam - 1 final
I will drop the lowest exam score, average the 3 remaining and assign 70% of the grade using this.
Quizzes (In class) - 10%
Think About It Questions (In class) 10%
Homework - 10%

Method 2 – For those who cannot spend time in class, or homework.
Mid-term exams - 3 exams
Final exam - 1 final
ALL EXAMS are REQUIRED nothing is dropped 100% on the average exam grade.

I will compute your grade using BOTH methods and will automatically assign the BEST one for you. Please do not ask me to use a little of one and a little from the other.

I will not give make up exams. If you miss an exam due to a UTEP approved reason (see the catalog) I will:
• Count the next exam as two scores.
• If the final is missed, I will count exam 3 twice.

Homework: Assigned on GradeScope. See BlackBoard for a link.
Quizes and TAI: Assigned on IClicker. See BlackBoard for a link.

You need access to BlackBoard, IClicker, GradeScope and Google Drive. Links to the last 3 are found on BlackBoard.

COVID-19 PRECAUTION STATEMENT
Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are
encouraged to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu, so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors. The Student Health Center is equipped to provide COVID-19 testing.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear face masks when indoors in groups of people. The best way that Miners can take care of Miners is to get the vaccine. If you still need the vaccine, it is widely available in the El Paso area, and will be available at no charge on campus during the first week of classes. For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org.

Announcement: If you feel you may have a disability which will make it difficult for you to carry out the work as I have outlined and/or if you need special accommodations/assistance due to a disability, please contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, go to Room 106E Union, or email cass@utep.edu.

Albert Einstein once said: "Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results." If you fail the first test, change something don't study the same way or you WILL fail again.

Academic Honesty

During exams and quizzes, you are not allowed to use any form of wifi enabled electronic device, including cell phones or other electronic communication devices or methods (wrist watches, earbuds, etc.). No wrist watch or other electronic device may be worn. Calculators and watches may be subject to inspection. You may be asked to temporarily remove glasses to allow for their inspection.

You may not bring backpacks, hats, bulky coats or hoodies into the exam room. Lockers are not available at the exam site so plan and leave your belongings in a secure location. You may NOT sit them in a corner of the exam room.

You must show your work for all problems. You must use the paper provided by the instructor. If no work is shown you may not receive credit. After the exam, the instructor may require you to explain how you solved a problem on the exam. If you refuse to or cannot explain your work you may be subject to disciplinary action.

No electronic version of the book, loose paper print-outs of the book or extra sheets of paper of any kind are allowed unless explicitly mentioned in writing by the instructor. As a part of the zero-tolerance policy, if you have a cellphone or other electronic device capable of communication on your person; or if any proctor sees or hears any electronic device during the exam or if you share your work with someone else, you will be reported to the proper authorities and you may receive a zero on the exam or an F in the class. Other actions including suspension may also be pursued.

No one will be allowed to leave the room during an exam. This includes restroom breaks. University approved recording devices may be located at various locations in the room and may be out of sight of the students. These recordings will be managed according to the UTEP approved regulations for such media. The instructor may create a record of your activity during the exam and may take photographs of your work during the exam.

If you are suspected of scholastic dishonesty you may or may not be directly confronted about your conduct by the instructor or proctor. You will however, be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR) and your exam may not be admissible. Your grade in the class may not be available until OSCCR makes a final ruling, this may adversely impact your ability to enroll in other classes.
If you arrive more than 15 minutes late to an exam, you will not be allowed to take the examination.

There will be no makeup exams administered. If you have a university approved excuse, your instructor will have a process for determining how to handle the missing grade outlined in the syllabus. However, no makeup exams will be given.

If you miss more than one exam, the instructor may choose to administratively drop you from the class. This may adversely impact a visa and financial aid.

No food or drink may be brought into the examination room.

Departmental policy allows for the use of assigned seats. All students must present their UTEP issued ID prior to and during every exam and may be required to sign in. Not having a UTEP issued ID when asked will result in forfeiture of the exam. No other IDs will be accepted.

Scholastic dishonesty on homework, lab assignments and all other class assignments will be held to the same standards and requirements of academic honesty as quizzes and exams.

**Class Attendance Policy**

Attendance is mandatory. Anyone with 5 or more absences may be dropped from the class. A drop for not attending will count toward the State Allowed Six Drop Limit. If you are failing the class at the time of the drop you may also be given a WF designation. Be advised that a drop could adversely impact visa status, financial aid and other programs.

As per UTEP rules, you may be asked to show a UTEP ID at any time during class. Anyone who is present and not registered in the class will be subject to disciplinary action unless the instructor gives prior approval.

**Excused Absence for Exams**

The UTEP catalog allows Exam Absence to be excused ONLY for University- Recognized Activities and very specific other situations. Medical absence is NOT allowed in the UTEP catalog. For consistency with the catalog, students will NOT be excused from exams due to illness.

**Harassment Policy**

The University (see Handbook of Operating Procedures 1.2.2.4) has a zero-tolerance policy for harassment. Engagement in any behavior considered harassment will be reported to the proper authorities. In addition to generally understood forms of harassment, the department also treats the following behavior as harassment:

- Repeated emails and/or calls regarding subjects that have already been addressed. Once a decision has been made or a question answered, a student who continues to ask the same question will be given a warning by the recipient of the email/call. If the student continues, the behavior will be reported. Questions that seek understanding of course material are not harassment; but repeated questions about a grade or an administrative decision are.
- Grades are NOT negotiable, ever. If you believe a grading mistake has been made, you must follow the process described in the UTEP catalog. Any request for a grade elevation that is NOT based on a mistake is considered harassment and will be reported immediately.
- Remaining in an office after the occupant requests you leave is considered harassment and potentially threatening. You will be reported immediately without warning and depending on the severity, may be reported to law enforcement.
- Similar behavior towards department staff, and student advisors will also be treated as harassment, including persistent phone calls, emails, and badgering. Department
staff and student advisors are there to help students, and should be treated with due respect.