

**Cuesta College**  
**PHYS 208A Lab Spring 2020 Lab Syllabus**

**Lab:** W 8-11 am

**Instructor:** Michelle Kaul

**Email:** [mkaul@cuesta.edu](mailto:mkaul@cuesta.edu)

**Prerequisite/Corequisite:** PHYS 208A

**Office Location:** 2749

**Hours:** T 11-12 pm or by appt.

**Website:** [www.KaulSpace.com](http://www.KaulSpace.com)

**Laboratories:** Labs will be held Wednesdays of each week listed on the attached lab schedule. The purpose of the lab work is to provide students with the opportunity to apply and demonstrate their knowledge of college engineering physics in a standard laboratory environment. Laboratory assignments are listed in the attached lab schedule. It is expected that you will read the instructions prior to coming to lab and complete any assigned pre-lab posted on the course website. Also, it is expected that you download the lab from the course website and bring a printout of the lab to be performed on the day of the lab experiment. I will provide a background and overview at the beginning of each lab. You will then work in groups of 2-3 students to complete the experiment.

**Pre-labs:** Some labs have required pre-lab questions that will be posted online prior to the lab. These pre-labs must be completed and turned in at the beginning of the lab meeting unless otherwise indicated.

**Lab write-ups:** A write-up based on the lab will be due at the beginning of the next lab. Each write-up should include the following sections: abstract, data collection, calculations, analysis and a summary including all errors and sources. I will go over what will be expected for each section during the first lab meeting. Our goal is to follow a scientific paper format such as those found on: <https://arxiv.org/>

**Lab grading:** The maximum number of points one can earn on any lab is 100 points. Lab write-ups and pre-labs, when applicable, will be weighted accordingly: When no pre-lab is assigned, then the

\*Pre-lab: 30 points

Data/Calculations/Analysis: 60 points

Abstract: 5 points

Summary/Errors: 5 points

**Note:** *If no pre-lab is assigned, the lab will still be worth 100 points with the pre-lab points divided among the other categories!*

**Department Lab Policies:**

\* 2 missed labs results in a failing grade in BOTH lecture and lab. Late labs may not be accepted depending on circumstances and/or will receive grade penalties. Note: if for some reason you cannot attend one of the labs, I will allow one lab experiment to be substituted with an appropriate project, details of which will be discussed mid-semester.

\* Students arriving >10 minutes late for lab will be sent home

\* Pre-lab is 30% of the lab grade

\* Post-lab is 70% of the lab grade

**Course Lab Weight:**

= 100 points of final grade