Welcome to the Spring 2016 term, which begins in a bit more than one week. The Registrar lists you as a student in one of my four sections of Physics 121 as of today (Friday, January 8).

I have attached the course "syllabus", which contains much of the information you will need throughout the term. Some of this information is repeated on my web page (http://web.njit.edu/~janow) and you can also download and print the entire syllabus there in "pdf" format. Please be sure you have the required pre-requisites and co-requisites mentioned in the syllabus; we are serious about enforcing them because students missing those basic competencies have done poorly in Physics 121 in the past. If you have questions about registration contact Ms. Christine Oertel in the Physics Department office (Tiernan 4th floor, christine.a.oertel@njit.edu).

Pages 1, 2, and 3 of the Syllabus should answer most of your questions in detail regarding the required materials, policies and course rules, and grading standards. Page 4 is a one page weekly schedule of the topics to be covered in lecture and recitation classes. Pages 5 and 6 summarize the currently planned homework deadlines for each of my four sections. We have stuck closely to the assignment schedule in the past and intend to do so this term also, barring unforeseen weather or other emergencies.

Be sure that email from your official NJIT email address reaches you. If you normally get your mail on some other email system (like gmail for example) you should set up automatic forwarding to it from your njit address.

The text for this term is: Young & Freedman, “University Physics, 13th Edition”. There will be some used books available. We use chapters 21 through 31 only for Physics 121. We are NOT using the new 14th edition of the same text. The bookstore will have both used and new copies of Edition 13 for us.

We are using “Mastering Physics” for online homework assignments and tutorials. If you did not use it in the past you will need to spend some time getting used to it. See the syllabus and my web site for more details. The NJIT bookstore will have competitively priced packages that bundle the book with a Mastering Physics access code. Wherever you get it, be sure you have Chapters 21 – 31 and an access code good for Y&F, 13th edition (not some other book, or an older or newer edition). The Mastering Physics login url and more details are on my web page.

In the weekly assignments list (Page 4):

The abbreviation "HW03" for example means homework assignment 03, covering the material introduced in Lecture 03. In addition to actual homework assignments I have posted some tutorial assignments, to which the system assigns zero points. The tutorial belonging to HW03 for example
is designated HW03tut, and so on. The tutorials do NOT count toward your grade.

My web site will have a lot of material for you during the term. The top url is http://web.njit.edu/~janow. You can navigate from there to the top level Spring 2016 Physics 121 page and below. Lectures, exam review materials, exam grades, and problem solutions are among the items posted. Some students find it useful to print the lecture notes and bring them to class.

We are once again using "iClickers" in my sections of Phys 121. Many of you have a clicker already and can just re-use it. iClickers are a type of "classroom response system" that polls the class on questions I ask in class, which might be just for fun or part of quizzes and attendance-keeping. If you don't have a clicker, you can buy one (at the bookstore – used is OK). Bring your clicker to every lecture-style class. Be sure there is a legible clicker ID on yours (look for an 8 digit hexadecimal string on the back).

If you do not already have a “Mastering Physics” account you will have to create one using your NJIT email address as your login ID and a password. You will need to sign yourself into the correct implementation of this course on “Mastering Physics” before you can pick up homework assignments and submit the answers. You need to have an access code for our text (usually bundled with a printed text). Some students may have codes from previous terms that are still good; others have to buy a new one.

Once you have a valid account, you need to use the appropriate course identifier code to enroll in one of the HW sections of my course. These IDs are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>HW Section Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>121002</td>
<td>MPJANOW121002SP16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>121012</td>
<td>MPJANOW121012SP16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>121008</td>
<td>MPJANOW121008SP16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>121010</td>
<td>MPJANOW121010SP16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The courses are open now for enrollment. The Syllabus and web page point you to the “Mastering” login and instructions for getting on the system. Let me know by email if this poses a problem. When I tried it last, Internet Explorer did not work well with Mastering Physics’ software. I’ve been using Firefox, which is OK. Chrome is fine as well.

Instructors cannot access your login information, so write it down. There is a “Mastering Physics“ lost-password function. Be sure to spell your name on “Mastering” the same way NJIT spells it on the course roster. Also, be sure to fill in your NJIT ID where requested on the account screen.

My teaching schedule is already posted on my web site and will also be available on the door of my office and the Physics Department office. You are strongly encouraged to come to my office throughout the term to talk about any issues or questions you have, or to email me anytime. If my posted office hours are not good for you, we can set up an appointment; email response is usually immediate. I will be at NJIT mainly on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays this term.

All the best.....see you in class.

RJ

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