Hi Everybody.

This week 8 feedback provided probably more written information than I've ever collected! Please find below your unedited feedback in black. My response to some of your statements is in purple italics. Most people are finding a way to make the class work and are enjoying the our learning model. I also notice that very little of your feedback is about me (if I teach well or not). Your comments are often about you and your study groups inside and outside of class, or how you work problems. I like this. People are spending a considerable amount of time on this class, and often attribute it to our learning model. However, when I lectured physics with the conventional model, a greater number of students claimed that physics was too time consuming. So, it might be worth checking in with other students in conventional lecture Physics 141. I think regardless of the learning model, physics is going to require a considerable time commitment. There's a few constructive criticisms that I'd like to follow up on…. In particular, is there a way for me to know if I should provide more help with a concept before I leave you to chew on it?

Thanks for your comments, below. See you soon.
Pete

I like working on problems in class, so I can ask questions because the online lectures can be hard to follow along w/o asking questions.

I'm still not really clicking with the videos. It feels like I have to do all the work outside of class, and it takes A LOT of time and dedication I just don't think this is the best way for me to learn. But I see why other people like it. Also, I really like the people I sit by, so that makes class more enjoyable.

I've enjoyed the class. When I first learned about the different approach to teaching/learning physics, I was a little skeptical but very willing to try it out. I wasn't disappointed. There's most of the work done outside of class, but all the real life situations we work with and try to solve has honestly had me thinking about the different physics topics while I'm just walking around and encountering things in my everyday life.

I like this class and find it fairly easy to think about things conceptually. Watching videos outside of class is time consuming but I think class time is well spent collaborating with others since I would likely not be bothered to do it outside of class very often. I like the format of the midterms and big exams, but I wish we had more time on them. I like not being graded on homework and quizzes since it takes a lot of stress out of the class, and makes it easier to focus on concepts rather than memorization and brute force. Overall, I really like the class and its structure.

I think I am gaining a better grasp on the subjects but I think it would be easier to learn if you could explain the problems more when you do them in class so it is easier to understand the problems.

Still like the format, but I'm starting to get lost/behind. Partly due to increased complexity, and also partly because a very full schedule.

I enjoy this class a lot even if it is challenging and sometimes a ton of work. I really appreciate the time you put into helping us and trying to "lower" our stress levels. I was nervous in the beginning on how you wanted answers on the tests to look like, but I know and I'm a lot less stressed.

It has been difficult to learn some concepts in such a short time, I feel like learning from students in physics is harder because some people took physics in HS, so they are usually the people answering all the questions.

I've really enjoyed the class so far! More examples with inclines would be helpful because I'm kind of getting confused.

I really like how the class runs. I find it very rewarding with the lenses clarify my thinking.

This class has been great for collaboration. Studying in a group makes it easy and I learn more with less frustration.

I really like the lenses (after getting used to them) because they help me to visualize how to solve problems before I even start.

The lens method finally grew on me. I also enjoy the level of excitement in class every day.

The class has gone very well for me. The dynamic of being able to discuss and work together in class has helped me a lot. So far I have had an enjoyable experience in this class.

Really enjoying your class! At first I really liked it, around the middle (weeks 4-6 probably) I began to get frustrated when I couldn't fully grasp rotational concepts. After vigorously trying to catch up doing problem sets and outlining the text before MT2 (I was fine though). The videos are really engaging and funny (sometimes my roommates watch along with me). Would definitely recommend this class to a friend: 10/10.

Everything is pretty solid!

I am doing so much better than I was at the beginning. I really love this class + teaching style. I feel like I really see physics in everyday life now w/o trying. Drawing vector addition diagrams [actually drew a real vector addition diagram] still confuses me.
I think it's great that you identify what is giving you trouble. This is something that you can give attention to and figure out. Of course, find your means (friends, office hours, video replay, meditative contemplation). Let me know how I can help.

Everything's going well right now working in groups has really helped. I could be spending more time on the P.S. but besides that, it's all good.

I like Pete's enthusiasm and how he's understanding of his students. I also like the fact he allows us to correct our test mistakes. My only complaint or criticism is that Pete should be more straight forward in explaining how to solve physics problems.
P.S. The in-class demos are helpful!

I break this next one into two sections because it brings up two good talking points. A little more guidance would be helpful. Sometimes you walk out to get water too often and we're stuck and more time won't help so giving us a little hint to get going would be useful (sometimes it's fine but sometimes it's too much talking to each other time w/out help).
Totally… This is the balance I always have. But how am I to know? Do you know a priori when I leave that this is not going to be helpful, or is it only evident after I leave? Is this something that everyone in the group is already aware of? If you already know as I'm walking out the door, then maybe there's a way you could communicate it to me and we could improve the class? If you don't know that working on it alone doesn't help until after chewing on it for a while, then likely we're already doing the best we can. Please let me know if you have ideas about this. Also, I didn't like this class at first b/c I'm a lot better at manipulating equations than writing than explaining what I'm doing. But it's made me realize I need to work on explaining things and how being able to talk about what you're doing is a useful skill.
Wow, how much could I say about this? Yes! We are habituated to our background… and you and I have a long history of "master lectures to novice" learning styles, where you also know how to solve a problem before you start working on it by slamming numbers into equations. I have to confess that in 1999 I left my visiting professor position at The Colorado College under pretty bad circumstances because I refused to adapt to a flipped classroom. YES, I was habituated to lecturing. This is because I both enjoyed lecturing and people claimed I was very good at it… I didn't want to stop lecturing, so I found all kinds of reasons to find lecturing as the better way to teach – even though the education studies had already started to show that "student centered" activity-based classes had better student learning outcomes. We humans are very adaptable – that's why we're still on the planet. However, we are very resistant to change. I think it's great that you were able to see this in yourself.

I like learning the 4 lenses all at once but what I really dislike is the learning outside of clas. It is really time consuming and I feel like I learn better in a classroom setting. Not only that, but I also feel like that could be improved is that you make mistakes on purpose but sometimes b/c you make that mistake, it confuses me even more.

Hey, Pete, I've gotta say I'm loving this class. Is it challenging? At times. But I know I'm learning a lot.

The flipped style really didn't work for me – I was optimistic and helped it would revolutionize teaching, but it really just made my life way more stressful and this class extremely difficult. I learn things best when you're explaining the problems rather than a video of you doing it.

This class has been going well. Working in groups and meeting new people has been a great experience. The content of the class is well presented and understandably so I think I can stay on top of it.

It's goin' alright. I'm getting used to planning my time to fit in the videos, but I'm getting lazy and find it hard to compel myself to do the problem sets & read the text even thought I know I should.

So far (week 8) class has been awesome. The videos are (succinct?) and helpful. The approach is ???? He grades very generously. I can tell he's here to help us learn, not just give us a grade and get on with his research. *Actually, I look forward to class every day. I do love my research on energy technologies for the global poor. However, I'm equally excited by what we're doing in class. In fact, I've convinced some other instructors to teach this way next fall.*