

Hi everybody.

Thanks for the feedback Thursday, the end of our second week, and today, the first day of our third week. I will write in purple, and your statements are in black.

Some of you are struggling with this learning style and request a return to a more conventional lecture model. Others are making the transition more readily. Regardless, I encourage you to find a way to make this learning model work for you. Please come by an office hour and let me know how I can help. Thanks.

From Thursday, Week 2:

I like the social aspect & idea behind this class but unfortunately I haven't gotten into the "groove" of the class yet.

At first I wasn't very happy
With the way things are graded
But I think I'm getting the hang
Of it so I am OK with it now

More responsibility than I'm used to in terms of classes @ CP, but good overall.

Dear Dr. Schwartz,

I enjoy your class. However, it does take a lot of time to prepare for each class.

These past two weeks have felt like a waste of time in class. It would be nicer if we went over examples first as a whole class then break into groups. Feels like too much chatting.

I've understood the videos, but I feel like I don't completely understand/know all the equations.

- Need more clear examples in class!

I have some troubles with the class as it is, but I understand that I need to practice your style of teaching in order to understand it. I like the idea of concepts being valued over the values of a problem because I feel as if my math skills are lacking in that.

After 2 weeks, this class has intrigued me. It's something I'm not used to, but I'm enjoying. Keep it up!

Pete,

I am really enjoying this class. However, I find it exceptionally difficult to want to watch the videos outside of class. I know that is the biggest part to this class so I think I'm going to come to your office hours soon to ask your advice.

P.S. I love your shirts

Teaching style is very unique and much more understanding than past physics class. Engaging with the class the way you do is very helpful.

I think that optimal subtitles would be nice on some of the videos because their audio quality tends to vary and sometimes I have to keep pausing and moving the videos back just to hear what exactly you said. (I don't have a hearing disability, but sometimes I just have issues understand what is said.) I totally agree, and I'm planning to do this, but haven't found the time, energy, money to hire someone.

I'm feeling pretty confident in this class.

It feels like too much time is spent focusing on things that are not really relevant to the actual physics, just semantics about that particular problem. The grading also reflects this.

I feel like you're teaching this class in the opposite direction. You should go over concepts and everything before PS/BE. I appreciate the current strategy, but for someone who has never taken physics it's really hard to understand.

P.S. I'm scared as hell for the midterm.

- Overall pretty interesting class
- Would like, if you would answer my questions rather than have my group members answer them especially when I'm confused.

There were some topics that, when introduced were explained in a less-than-ideal way, but they have been cleared up through discussions, class, etc. I think the way the class is being taught is great.

Confusing and hard but I like it better than any other physics class I've had.

I enjoy this style of class. Conferring with my classmates has helped facilitate my learning.

This course is a bit difficult right now. There's a lot going on w/ all 4 lenses & the exercises in the book have no key to check answers.

I really like the setup of the class. I like being able to take my time in the lectures. It's great. It's just a lot of extra time out of class.

From Monday, Week 3:

I think the teaching method of the class is great. It's new and interesting; very social & engaging. But I am very worried that I will do poorly on exams. Every question regarding physics seems to be different & I can't relate it to anything. This is hard for me. And I still can't make sense of graphs.

I like the concept of this class, but I've had some difficulty adjusting to the style. It seems a bit disorganized, and I don't have a full grasp of what we've covered, because I find that, personally, I have a hard time learning from videos.

I have been struggling a bit with understanding how to apply the formulas to an idea. I just need a concrete equation that I can apply to a concept but I need to reach out for help. I just need to catch up, but the videos can be confusing sometimes.

How this class is going for me:

I've taken physics before & this is definitely a different approach to physics that I've encountered. It has definitely taken me a bit to get used to it but I believe I am getting better at identifying lenses in problems I am still having problems explaining why I am using a certain lens. How do I prove that the lens/lenses are the correct/best ones to use? **You can't. You can only motivate why you are using this lens and try it and see what happens... or try a different one and see if it's more helpful.**

I do like the social aspect of the class. It definitely helps with trying to figure out certain ideas presented in class/at home.

I think the BE's are helpful as I hope they'll prepare me for the midterms.

I like and understand approximately 90% of the videos but some can be a bit clearer (I make sure to write that in the video comments @ the end)

I struggle w/ the wording of the HW at times but I try my best. I'm also going to a physics workshop.

I think I'm definitely hitting up office hours soon.

I really like this teaching philosophy, it allows us to learn in a relatively stress-free environment and still learn. I'm still just nervous for the midterm because it counts for so much of our grade.

Cool

I believe that the lens method is an interesting way to learn. However, I would hope to know more about what you are looking for in regards to explanations. I hope that I can do well in this class, and am looking forward to be able to look at physics more as a whole than in pieces.

The lectures are a great way to introduce new topics, but I feel like a lot of class time isn't used very well and could be better spent having you recap the videos' material before you let us socialize and work together.

Show us a clear example of how to identify our lens in a problem please. Showing one every so often would give me a better idea of what you're looking for.

It is too late to drop this class so I am trying to figure out this lens crap. I have never been this confused in a class before.

I enjoy your enthusiasm for physics but you're a little too negative on your-self at times. One day in class you said, "I'm a failure." I couldn't tell if it was theatrics or you actually thought/meant it. Just wanted to let ya know you're not a failure at all. So yeah, keep on with the enthusiasm ☺
p.s. I like your idea of presenting all 4 lenses @ once, but I feel like it also makes it a bit tougher to grasp.

This class is very interesting. It is a little strange & frustrating at first but I feel like the social concept is helpful.