

COURSE SUMMARY

DEPARTMENT: PHYS

TERM: Spring 2018

RESPONSES: 21 OUT OF 40 - 52.5%

INSTRUCTOR: Schwartz, Peter

COURSE: PHYS-121 06 College Physics I

QUESTIONNAIRE: PHYS168ALL

QUESTION GROUP STATISTICS

INDICATOR	AVERAGE	MEDIAN	S.DEV
Summary Evaluation Average (2.1 & 2.2)	3.9	4	1.08

SUMMARY EVALUATION

NUM	QUESTION	AVERAGE	MEDIAN	S.DEV	RESPONSES					
					N =	(5)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)
2.1)	Overall, this instructor was educationally effective.	3.9	4	1.18	21	7	9	3	0	2
2.2)	Overall, this course was educationally effective.	3.9	4	1	21	6	9	5	0	1

COMMENTS

1.1) Write any comments below that might help your instructor evaluate his/her teaching performance. What did you particularly like? What improvements could you suggest?

- I will preface by saying that I love Pete Schwartz. He has a great enthusiasm for the subject and keeps class fun and interesting! However, the style of watching videos at home could have been more effective. Having to watch 1-2 hours of videos before each class AND do the problem sets at home is too much to ask for a GE class. If we had to watch the videos at home then do the homework in class, I feel like I could have grasped the concepts a little better. If he were teaching to an audience that all had physics backgrounds, this style would be great. But coming in with no prior knowledge besides the minimal teaching I got as a sophomore in high school (5 years ago) I felt like I was crashing through this class the whole quarter.

- I liked the in-class examples. I think some of the videos were really helpful, while some were lacking sufficient explanation to comprehend the material. I like the lens way of teaching, but I think the class should spend a little less time conversing with each other when it would have been a lot more helpful to my understanding of the material to get a clear explanation on how to do a tricky problem, particularly if it's one we've never seen before. Overall, it was not too difficult to get through though. I think the textbook and textbook examples/ problem sets helped me the most.

- Be a bit friendlier with the students. Love the videos online/class format.

- I was not a fan of the flipped classroom because I felt like it didn't leave me enough time to study and practice material outside of class because I was constantly "preparing" for class with the long videos to watch. The parallel pedagogy was pretty easy to adapt to.

- maybe have more quizzes

- Pete is very easy to talk to and really cares about education. It is very nice that he doesn't just shout physics at you, and instead provides many opportunities for success in his class. I firmly believe that I would not have been nearly as successful in learning the concepts in any other section.

- Explains physics in a way that is easily understood. He is very excited about the material he teaches and the class is very engaging way. He wants to make sure everyone has a good understanding of the underlining concepts.

- I liked how the class was run and that we had time to talk to each other in class, but sometimes the people around me didn't know what how to go about a problem and neither did I. That is when I wished that there was more guide in how to attack the problem. Maybe after a video there could be a problem that is directly correlated with the video so right after the video is watched there is practice that corresponds to it.

- I liked the flipped classroom idea, but I didn't like that I couldn't ask questions while he was teaching so I had to rewatch the videos many time in order to finally get what he was saying. I liked that we did experiments during class and he made it very engaging even though we were all very tired by the end of the day. I think that I'd like for his explanations to be slower so I could grasp the concepts better.

- Pete is an interesting professor with a very different teaching method than I am used to. The beginning of the course was very overwhelming and frustrating to understand, however as the course went on I was able to piece things together and understood things better. Going to class kind of felt like a waste of time and was painful to get motivation to go. I wish that class was more entertaining with concepts that connected to the videos more.

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- I had a difficult time adjusting to the different learning method. It was hard for me to keep up with the fast paced videos and learn from them. I found the problem sets and text book most helpful when trying to learn the concepts. In the future it would be helpful to go over how to do more problems in class.
- I really liked the flipped curriculum, learning about the concepts first and building on them over the duration of the course. What could help is maybe a printed formula sheet, but its not necessary.
- Loved this class and how it was taught. Definitely understand physics on a conceptual level thanks to the class organization.
- I personally am not the biggest fan of the flipped classroom. I do not have time to watch his videos outside of class because physics is not my only class, so I find myself just playing them in the background while I do classwork for my other 3 classes. His grading is so confusing because you don't know what you did right or wrong, you just get a letter grade. He gets work back to you quickly, but I would rather get them back later with actual feedback on why I got a B when I had no idea how to do the problem and thought I got an F. I don't think I have a strong grasp on how to do physics problems, with general concepts I feel okay.
- In the beginning, I really hated this class because it was a completely new style of teaching that frustrated me. I don't like the unfamiliar and Pete's method of teaching was completely unfamiliar to me. As a STEM major, I'm used to having to plug numbers into formulas and finding a pattern; however, as Pete had said in the beginning, you really do get out what you put in. I tried so hard in this class to succeed in terms of this new method, and I think I did get out what I put in. Although this course frustrated me, it really did push me to try to understand what I was doing and why instead of the normal equations and plug and go. Thanks to Pete and this method of teaching, I feel like I've learned the most from this class than any other. I feel like I've truly understood what I was doing and that I've actually learned- not just memorized. Also, Pete is a great guy and excellent professor- he wants all of his students to try their best and goes above and beyond to provide all the resources his students may need to do so.
- I appreciate Pete's love for and knowledge of physics. He likes to teach in a different way than any other teacher, and while this may work for some people, it did not work for me. I find it 100% unfair that I barely pass the class just because he wants to teach in a whole new way. I wasn't just hit with a bunch of new material, but I was also hit with a whole new way of thinking. This class caused me so much stress that I have cried and almost threw up. I don't think it's fair because this whole class was completely different and unconventional. We should've been told before we signed up for the professor that he didn't teach normally. I would've requested another professor had I known what I was getting myself into. He is very smart and extremely passionate about physics, but I am not in college to almost fail a class. I am here to learn, which was taken away from me from the flipped classroom. I am not here to waste my hardworking mother's money to end up not receiving the knowledge I should have and could have gotten from a different professor. Please make future students aware of the difficulty and new teaching style before they sign up for the course. I am disappointed because I was extremely excited for my first ever physics class. I will now have to take another physics class somewhere else to learn the material properly. I love Pete Schwartz! He is an engaged and caring professor! THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH PETE AND HIS CRAZY KNOWLEDGE OF PHYSICS!!! I just didn't appreciate the flipped classroom and know that I would've gotten a much better grade and higher grade point average with another teacher. Thank you for listening, and I hope this is taken seriously.
- This was a very unusual course. His teaching style was one that you either liked or hated, and by the end of the quarter, I did enjoy it. At first, it may leave you very confused, but that gets better as time goes on. You must put in a good amount of time outside of this class to do well, and unfortunately I was unable to do as well as I hoped. Overall, this was a good class and a good way to conceptually learn the material.
- I liked the system, and the professors passion for the subject was admirable. I struggled with concepts at times, but overall improved heavily on my physics.
- This class honestly went much better than expected. When Pete explained his teaching style I was somewhat worried. However, if you watch his videos and actually try, it is not a difficult class. I really enjoyed this teaching method and hopes he continues teaching physics like this! Additionally, Pete wants you to succeed. He is not there to fail anyone and he shows this by replacing your lowest midterm grade with your final grade. If you did the homework and really tried on it, you would notice that the exams are incredibly similar! Although his teaching method was very different than I have ever had before, I feel even more prepared for my next physics class.
- The instructor fails to address students in a professional or effective manner. He is very unclear of assignment dates, as well as test dates change within 48 hours before the exam. Many students including myself felt frustrated with his unique teaching style. The tests did not examine understanding of material whatsoever but rather understanding of the professors unique teaching/learning style. The instructor was very discouraging during office hours and verbally expressed his disapproval with my level of understanding with long rants. However, he is very smart and understands the material himself, his "new" teaching style only strains the student.
- In theory, I like the idea of a flipped classroom, but I believe the way you carry it out is ineffective. It is too much for an intro class with most having no background in physics. The videos are hard to follow and class time is typically wasted because most people are confused. The most I've learned in class is during the times you bag on yourself for "lecturing too much" but I think that may be the way to go for 121. I came in very eager to learn physics and embrace this teaching style, but I've taken almost nothing away from it despite my efforts.