

**COURSE SUMMARY**

**DEPARTMENT: PHYS**

**TERM: Fall 2018**

**RESPONSES: 37 OUT OF 50 - 74%**

**INSTRUCTOR: Schwartz, Peter**

**COURSE: PHYS-141 03 General Physics IA**

**QUESTIONNAIRE: PHYS168ALL**

**QUESTION GROUP STATISTICS**

INDICATOR	AVERAGE	MEDIAN	S.DEV
Summary Evaluation Average (2.1 & 2.2)	4.04	4	1.01

**SUMMARY EVALUATION**

NUM	QUESTION	AVERAGE	MEDIAN	S.DEV	RESPONSES					
					N =	(5)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)
2.1)	Overall, this instructor was educationally effective.	4.03	4	1.01	37	15	12	6	4	0
2.2)	Overall, this course was educationally effective.	4.05	4	1.03	37	15	14	3	5	0

**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 do not like his flipped classroom style. I could see how this could work for a class other than physics or even for those who took physics in high school, but not for those who's first insight of physics is this. His classtime seems almost pointless to me.

- Professor Schwartz teaches in a "flipped" matter meaning he does not lecture in class at all. I thought this was going to be beneficial because I generally like learning from videos, but I was always confused. The videos we had for homework were confusing and class for the most part was not productive. I liked who he is as a person, I always felt encouraged to try his method, and encouraged to talk to him and others if I needed help. Improvements I suggest is making the class a bit of both lecture and videos. I feel like if we had more lectures in class, the material would not be conveyed as confusing.

- I liked the concept of his teaching style, I think it fosters an environment for student to understand physics better than any class has taught it to me before. but its drawbacks are that I think the quarter system rushes the process. since this method requires students to discover their understanding for themselves rather than just giving them the info it can sometimes be forcing an something to happen that can take much longer for some students.

- Pete was very excited about physics and wanted to help us all learn. While I struggled in the class, his way of presenting information and help during office hours helped me.

- I loved the teaching method of "flipped classroom". It was especially helpful to have consistent discussions with my peers in class about problems we work on, and to spend half the class period doing that and the other half listening to Pete. Pete was a fun, enthusiastic and engaging teacher. I was very excited to go to class every day knowing that I will strongly benefit from the structure of the classroom and better understand problems I contemplated before coming to class. Pete was definitely the most helpful instructor I've had, giving very detailed explanations of concepts and trying best to introduce the nature of Physics. He did a great job of eliminating our preconceived notions of how we saw Physics. By teaching us to consider what "lens" to look through or what "lens" another might be looking through, he taught us how to adjust our perspective to improve our ideas, a skill not just beneficial in the Physics classroom, but in any classroom, or in general, life.

- I just think you don't learn very much with physics 1. For me it was mostly just memorizing how to do each problem. Although, I do and will probably continue to use the lens strategy from now on because I do think it is a good way to tackle physics problems.

- I enjoyed the lecture videos we had to watch because it helped give me a better overall understanding of each topic before we actually went over it during class. I would suggest not having us complete a project the week before finals because we had so much time during the quarter to do it earlier.

- Pete, I really appreciated your class. While I had a lot of personal situations come up, I really learned a lot about physics. It helped me understand concepts I never nailed down in high school. The ability to playback videos was such a useful resource. I elaborated more in the other survey. Just really appreciated this class.

- I liked the lense method of learning physics but the lectures felt sporadic and overall lacking structure.

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- I liked that he wanted us to really think about the concepts and that he cared more about us understanding conceptually than plugging numbers into formulas. but it was frustrating to go over problems in class solely conceptually because I personally need to try it with numbers too to fully understand it. also, often when he would ask us questions as a group and we would answer, but he wouldn't say if we were right so we would remain confused. he also wasted a lot of time letting us "talk" about the problems and leaving the classroom

- This was one of my favorite classes. I loved the demos he performed in class, the videos he made, the short textbook, and his overall personality. I like how we had discussions in class, but I just wish he was more understanding of quiet students. Some of us learn better on our own and not in a chatty classroom.

- I loved this class! It was my favorite class. I think your focus on just the concepts of physics really worked well for an intro physics class. I feel prepared to look at any physics problem and figure out how to solve it. This is something I could not do in high school physics, I would just plug numbers into equations without really understanding where they came from.

- Pete wants us all to succeed. He tries to help us and listens to our suggestions. Throughout the quarter I realized that the flipped classroom is not the best way for me to learn. I liked when he would do demonstrations in class to help us visualize the concepts. It would be better if the problems we did in class were more structured. I would like it if he would give us a worksheet with the problems to do and we would go over them at the end of class. I feel like I don't have enough time to do them in the time he gives us and then I feel lost. I also want more problems with numbers and clear answers so I can know if I am doing them right.

- Professor Schwartz was extremely enthusiastic throughout the entire course and I greatly admire his different teaching style (even though it may have not been my preferred method at times).

- What I liked:

In class demos

Homework was for feedback, not a grade

Proper use of socratic method (asking guiding questions rather than just "why")

Big Exams to give us a sample of what midterm/final questions would be like

Learning to analyze problems rather than plug-and-chug equations.

What could be improved:

Watch the clock. We ran out of time in class quite often, especially toward the end of the quarter.

Spend about 1 week less on linear physics and a 1 week or so more on rotational physics.

Overall, I loved this course. It took some time to adapt at the beginning, but then it became my favorite class. 10/10 would recommend to any student who is going to take PHYS 141

- Fantastic course. The altered teaching method helped me a ton

- Oh where do I start. Professor Schwartz is extremely passionate and knowledgeable about physics, and I loved the 4 lens method that he preached because it taught me that there were so many different ways to look at the same problem. The videos were somewhat interesting, but sometimes they got confusing as well as the lectures. Sometimes I wish he would flush out a problem instead of getting halfway through a problem and assuming that the students know how to finish it, but otherwise, I did enjoy the class and it taught me how to apply physics to the world around me, rather than just hypothetical situations.

- He was very passionate about the subject he taught. My only problem was that he taught in a completely different style than I had ever been taught. I also felt that when he tried to explain certain problems to us, it would be very hard to understand because he would skip a lot of steps and he didn't use numbers a lot of time in his practice problems that he did in front of the class, which would make it difficult to know how to do the problems for the exams.

- Parallel Pedagogy is nice.

- I really enjoyed the setup of this class. I felt I was able to focus more on learning and understanding the material rather than stress over grades. The instructor and his methods towards physics were very helpful and effective. I felt I was less confused taking this class than others who take PHYS-141.

- I feel like this class did not give me a lot of formulas in order to move on to the next classes but it helps with understanding but both is necessary for future education

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- Honestly really liked the style of class, wish my other classes were more like this.
- I didn't really like the teaching model he adapted. I'd rather he just lecture in class. It also feels like a lot of class time is wasted because he lets us discuss about the problems but we're all just confused and we don't progress. It also never seems like he finishes a question. It still feels open ended and before you know it, he's on to another question. Only sometimes his classes were not confusing and helpful.
- I like the structure where we do all lecture style learning through videos. For me, it was most helpful in class when we as a class, saw a problem, and worked it out along with you, on the board. I wish we did a little bit more of that, or at least spent more time on it for every section in the textbook.
- Improve office hours.
- I wasn't opposed to the "flip" classroom technique at first, which was watching lecture videos for homework and doing problems in class, but as the quarter went on, I just got more and more confused because the videos were confusing and that made me more confused in class. The class was mainly conceptual, and there was really no math involved except if you were solving for the answer with an equation. I didn't understand the concepts at all and found myself more and more confused. I didn't enjoy the class because I felt like I learned nothing and even if I wanted to study I didn't know how or where to start because everything felt all over the place for me.
- Mr. Schwartz was a great and enthusiastic professor. I never felt bored or lost during his lectures because of his demonstrations and personality. His teaching style took a while to get used to and required a lot of time outside of class, but now I have a very strong understanding of physics that I will need for my future career in Engineering. Wouldn't change a thing about the class
- I liked his enthusiasm about physics and high energy. I would suggest remaking some of the lecture videos that have mistakes in them. I would also suggest discussing with the class instead of leaving the room because sometimes we're all confused so discussing with each other doesn't benefit. I feel like I was learning by myself and friends and not from the professor.
- I really appreciated the true learn by doing aspect of this class, however, I felt that I could've benefitted from a more structured and concise curriculum and textbook.
- I sometimes felt intimidating by my instructor and would be scared to answer questions or get help. I would suggest a more empathetic approach, but also gently push for involvement with other students. The active teaching really help me understand the concepts better and I'm glad I took this class. The workload was never stressful and I'm glad the homework was optional.
- This professor was almost perfect. We watched lecture videos outside of class and worked together in class, which worked really well for me and the rest of the class. He was very open and honest with the class, and I believe that open communication with the instructor is important. He made a point to be personal with his students, despite the fact there were around fifty students. When he struggled with someone's name, he was always genuinely sorry. He not only taught us the topic, but taught us how to be better people. This professor went above and beyond for educating his students, which is beneficial to any freshmen in their first quarter of college.