

COURSE SUMMARY

DEPARTMENT: PHYS

TERM: Fall 2019

RESPONSES: 31 OUT OF 44 - 70.45%

INSTRUCTOR: Schwartz, Peter

COURSE: PHYS-141 06 General Physics IA

QUESTIONNAIRE: PHYS168ALL

QUESTION GROUP STATISTICS

INDICATOR	AVERAGE	MEDIAN	S.DEV
Summary Evaluation Average (2.1 & 2.2)	4.34	5	0.92

SUMMARY EVALUATION

NUM	QUESTION	AVERAGE	MEDIAN	S.DEV	RESPONSES					
					N =	(5)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)
2.1)	Overall, this instructor was educationally effective.	4.19	4	1.01	31	15	10	4	1	1
2.2)	Overall, this course was educationally effective.	4.48	5	0.81	31	18	12	0	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?

- Please read the page long analysis I posted on your survey.

- This style of teaching was extremely effective and helpful for me, the flipped classroom was not though, if there was a way to include lectures AND our discussions that would be ideal.

Teaching physics through lenses in the way that Schwartz does is wonderful and should be done everywhere, it improves the understanding of the subject and is more effective

- I loved the flipped style classroom, made me learn a lot more than before.

- I enjoy talking to the people around me, but maybe a little less time for that

- Pete is an amazing professor. The first few days students struggled with his teaching style as it is different than most but I specifically took the class because of his teaching style and everyone grew to really like it.

- I liked the demos in class but the design of the course with no lectures did not work as well as I thought it would. Learning the lectures on your own was challenging and I think I would have preferred a traditional class instead of this style. An improvement to the class would be a 10 min review of what the lectures contained before jumping into problems and demos.

- Class time often felt inefficient due to the nature of the inverted classroom. The lectures were beneficial and helpful but it took a lot of time outside of class that could have been used in class much more beneficially.

- I knew almost no physics before I took this class, and now I can safely say that this is one of the classes I've learned the most in. Schwartz teaches four physics lenses (momentum, dynamics, energy, and kinematics) in parallel, which really helps with relating them and switching between them in order to solve different types of problems. The structure of the class worked well for me, but I can see how it wouldn't work for others. We watch instructional videos before class, and then work through problems in class, which is great as long as you can discipline yourself to pay attention to the videos and not look at your phone. My main issue with this class is asking questions. Schwartz wants you to ask your peers before you ask him, but even after that encourages you to work through it with your group instead of just helping you out a bit. Very often he asks the whole class questions, but when the class doesn't know it he tells us to talk about it while he goes to get a drink of water. This is pretty annoying, and is probably my main issue with the class, but otherwise the class is very informative and not too hard either, I would recommend.

- I struggled the entire quarter with the flipped classroom method. I did not like the method because we would have to watch videos of lectures back home then come to the class ready to discuss about the videos. But I never had much time to watch the videos so I always was very lost in the class

- Wasn't generally willing to help those with questions which was a little frustrating, we were meant to dominantly rely on our peers as a source of help.

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Getting help from others in the class isn't necessarily a bad thing, but if I were to ask the professor for help I'd be told to ask someone in the class, or I would be judged for my question. One time when I asked a question I was accused of not doing my necessary readings/ not paying attention, when in reality I was simply confused by a diagram that was drawn. Anyway overall he taught well, just wasn't very approachable or professional in my opinion.

- The way the course was taught was enjoyable to learn. Was better than the last physics class I took.

- I definitely enjoyed looking at the class through multiple lens like Pete thoroughly transcribed through his classes. I think that helped a lot more than just punching in formulas and looking at concepts separately rather than simultaneously. He really expanded my capability to understand physics more and allow me to grasp concepts more. Through his flipped classroom style, all of my classmates and I benefited in multiple ways. We formed more relationships that we did not necessarily expect to have gained and the participation in class was really great. I really appreciated all of the resources he gave us, and everything he put into this class to make it great! I will thoroughly miss this class next quarter.

- I freaking love Pete. For students who are not willing to go the extra mile, this class is not for you. However, if you want to be able to conceptually understand physics and be able to tackle nearly every type of problem regarding kinematics, dynamics, energy, and momentum, this class is for you. The other comments that are negatively judging this class only represent the students who did not put in the effort to succeed. To succeed in this class: do the problem sets, listen to how he wants you to solve the problems the first time, and watch his videos for comprehension, not for completion. He is extremely intelligent and is always willing to talk not just about physics, but also about how we as a class feel. I would 100% recommend this class for anyone 1st year or not.

- It took me a couple weeks to get used to Pete's style of teaching, but once I did, I was able to appreciate it much more. Even though the majority of the "lectures" came from the videos, it felt like the time in class wasn't necessarily geared towards asking questions, having to rely on your neighbors and the LA. Fortunately Pete was always willing to stick around after class to answer any lingering questions, which was amazing and much appreciated

- Loved the class. Took a little to get into the structure but the teaching structure really helped me and I've learned so much of the quarter. The lens method is something I'm going to use always now in physics and has given me a great base.

- I like the flipped classroom method.

- cool teacher

- I really liked the way that this class was taught and highly recommend it for anyone else who teaches PHYS 141. I liked how we didn't rush through topics, there was an emphasis on talking with your other classmates, and how we were required to understand why things work the way they do before trigonometry was introduced. I took the same class last spring quarter and felt rushed and behind the 8 ball the whole time, in this class I actually got really sick and missed a whole week (which I don't recommend missing) and never felt behind or rushed once. Also it was very beneficial for this intro to physics class to not have midterms but weekly quizzes and a final:)

- I liked how we didn't have any midterms, but weekly assessments instead, which helped keep me in check. A suggestion would be to explain the practice problems slower.

- I am BEGGING Cal Poly to remove this professor from campus. PLEASE. Pete is an overall kind person, but he CANNOT teach physics. His new "flipped classroom" style of teaching is horribly ineffective and my peers and I have felt that we have un-learned the physics we learned in high school in this class. He cannot explain any concept or problem in an efficient manner and I feel like I haven't learned, let alone retained, anything said in this class. What is more, this class is mainly just watching his own lecture videos at home and then coming to a class where we essentially do nothing. STEER CLEAR OF PETE SCHWARTZ. FOR YOUR OWN SAKE. I DO NOT KNOW WHY A UNIVERSITY AS PRESTIGIOUS AS CAL POLY LETS THIS MAN ENTER THIS CAMPUS.

- While the flipped classroom was pretty cool I think it could have been executed better, specifically the fact that if the point of the class is for lecture to be outside of class and class time designated for classwork and student collaboration, there should be less lecture in class

- His teaching methods are a bit different from a regular classroom setting. It was an interesting way of learning and was effective

- I really liked this professor, he was very passionate about teaching and really sought to help every student do well in the class. I loved the demonstrations he did because they made the class interesting. I liked how we had a very short textbook, it made me feel like I was never doing busy work. I can't think of a lot to improve on in this class I just wish I had gone to more office hours and spent more time studying for this class.

- I think that he did an excellent job, and I liked the way in which he taught multiple concepts concurrently.

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- Teaching style was superior to any other physics class I've taken, promoted understanding and retention to a high level. Hope other physics courses would have the same teaching style.

- Overall I liked the different learning environment for this class. Myself not being a particular great physics student thought that by learning the concepts rather than just the formulas and numbers was a better way to teach physics. However, I believe certain things could be changed. Having the problem sets and videos be actually graded would be the best change.

- I liked the unique style of learning for physics, and prefer it to formulas because it builds conceptual understanding. However, it does lead to a lot of questions, which he doesn't really answer, and instead wants you to ask your groupmates. But what if your groupmates don't know the answer? His style of asking peers assumes that there is at least one "smart" person in every group who knows how to solve the problem (in which case, what are they learning?).

- Some more direct instruction would be helpful for some of the topics that I felt kind of in the dark for. I do appreciate the ambition in a new way of teaching but it definitely still needs to be improved.