

## Typical Physics 1 syllabus (Mechanics) and suitable PhET Sims.

- 0) Algebra, trigonometry, unit conversion, taking derivatives  
**Graphing Lines / Calculus Grapher**
- 1) 1D Kinematics :  $x$ ,  $v$ ,  $a$  vs  $t$  graphs, constant acceleration formulas  
**The Moving Man / Ramp: Forces and Motion / Calculus Grapher**
- 2) Vector math: addition and subtraction of vectors, components of a vector  
**Vector Addition**
- 3) Motion in 2D: Vector acceleration,  $v_1$ - $v_2$ - $\Delta v$  diagrams, 2D projectile motion, circular motion  
**Vector Addition / Projectile Motion / Lunar Lander / Motion in 2D / Maze Game**
- 4) Newton's Laws, free-body diagrams, kinetic and static friction  
**Forces in 1 dimension / Ramp: Forces and Motion / Friction**
- 5)  $\mathbf{F}_{\text{net}} = m\mathbf{a}$  problems: FBDs, coordinate systems,  $\sum F_x = ma_x$ ,  $\sum F_y = ma_y$   
**Forces and Motion / Pendulum Lab**
- 6) Work and energy, KE and PE, conservation of energy, power  
**Masses and Springs / Pendulum Lab / Energy Skate Park / The Ramp**
- 7) Gravity:  $F_{\text{grav}} = GMm/r^2$ ,  $g = GM/r^2$ , orbits, escape velocity  
**My Solar System**
- 8) Conservation of linear momentum; impulse =  $\Delta \mathbf{p} = \mathbf{F}_{\text{net}} \Delta t$   
**Collision Lab**
- 9) Rotational motion:  $\theta$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $\alpha$  ; torque  $\tau = r F_{\perp}$  ;  $\tau = I \alpha$  ;  $KE_{\text{tot}} = KE_{\text{trans}} + KE_{\text{rot}}$   
**Ladybug Revolution / Torque / Motion in 2D / Ladybug Motion 2D**
- 10) Conservation of Angular Momentum,  $\vec{L} = \vec{r} \times \vec{p}$ ,  $\vec{L} = I\vec{\omega}$ ,  $\vec{L}_{\text{tot}} = \text{constant}$  if  $\vec{\tau}_{\text{ext}} = 0$   
**Torque**
- 11) Static Equilibrium:  $\sum F_x = 0$ ,  $\sum F_y = 0$ ,  $\sum \tau = 0$   
**Balancing Act**
- 12) Simple Harmonic Motion:  $\omega = 2\pi/T = \sqrt{k/m}$ , damped, driven SHO  
**Masses and Springs / Pendulum Lab / Resonance**
- 13) Fluids: density  $\rho$ , pressure  $p$ , buoyant force/Archimedes' Principle  
**Buoyancy / Balloons and Buoyancy / Fluid Pressure and Flow**
- 14) Traveling waves, sound waves,  $v_{\text{wave}} = \lambda f$ , Superposition Principle, standing waves  
**Wave on a String / Sound / Wave Interference / Fourier: Making Waves**
- 15) Thermo: specific heat  $c$ ,  $\Delta Q = m c \Delta T$  or  $\Delta Q = m L$ , ideal gases, heat transfer mechanisms  
**Friction / States of Matter / Gas Properties / Blackbody Spectrum**

## Typical Physics 2 syllabus (E&M, Optics) and suitable PhET Sims.

- 1) Coulomb's Laws and E-fields  
**Vector Addition / Charges and Fields / Balloons and Static Electricity / John Travoltage  
Electric Field Hockey**
- 2) Gauss's Law  
**Charges and Fields**
- 3) Voltage  
**Energy Skate Park** (for review of work and energy) / **Charges and Fields**
- 4) Capacitance  
**Capacitor Lab**
- 5) Electric Current: Ohm's Law, resistance and resistivity, simple circuits, power  
**Ohm's Law / Resistance in a Wire / Battery-Resistor Circuit /  
Circuit Construction Kit (DC Only)**
- 6) DC circuits: series and parallel elements, ammeters and voltmeters  
**Circuit Construction Kit (DC Only)**
- 7) RC circuits  
**Circuit Construction Kit (AC+DC)**
- 8) Magnetism I: Lorentz Force Law, forces on current-carrying wires, motors
- 9) Magnetism II: Sources of the B-field, Biot-Savart Law, Gauss's Law for B-fields, Ampere's Law, permanent magnets  
**Magnet and Compass / Magnets and Electromagnets**
- 10) Faraday's Law: emf, Lenz's Law, generators, eddy currents  
**Faraday's Law / Faraday's Electromagnetic Lab / Generator**
- 11) Inductors, Transformers, LC and LRC circuits  
**Faraday's Electromagnetic Lab / Circuit Construction Kit(AC+DC) / Generator**
- 12) Electromagnetic Waves, polarization of light  
**Wave on a String** (as mechanical example of transverse wave) / **Radiating Charge  
Radio Waves and Electromagnetic Field / Blackbody Radiation / Fourier: Making Waves**
- 13) Ray optics: reflection, Snell's Law, lenses and image formation, camera and eye  
**Bending Light / Geometric Optics / Color Vision**
- 14) Physical optics: Diffraction and Interference  
**Bending Light / Wave Interference / Fourier: Making Waves**