

## Questions and Answers about Physics Labs (2A/B, 4A/B, Physics 10)

**IMPORTANT: If you miss 3 labs you will fail the course. If you miss 3 labs and one or more are excused, but not made up, you will still fail the course. For details about excused labs, continue reading.**

**Policy on incomplete grades:** <http://www.fresnostate.edu/mapp/documents/apm/246.pdf>

**Policy on absences:** <http://www.fresnostate.edu/mapp/documents/apm/232.pdf>

### What should I bring to lab?

You should bring the following items to every meeting:

- The lab manual;
- A scientific calculator;
- A pencil or pen;
- extra paper or notebook for calculations before inclusion in the lab report.

### Do I need protective clothing for these labs?

No. you do not need protective clothing for the general physics labs. It is rare for hazardous material or procedures to be used in physics labs, and on those rare occasions when you would need protective wear, it will be provided.

### Q: Where do I find my instructor?

A: Faculty who teach labs can be found during office hours, which are posted on the department website and in or around the physics department office at McL 173. Graduate students who teach labs should be contacted in accordance with the contact instructions they provide to you on the first day of lab. Otherwise, they can be contacted by leaving a note in their mailbox in McL 173. When on campus, TA's are provided with office space in McL 218. You can find your instructor's email address on the left side of the physics department web page at <http://www.fresnostate.edu/csm/physics/people/>

### Q: I enrolled late – what do I do about the lab I missed during the first week?

A: First, check the schedule. It is usually posted outside the door to the lab room, outside room 164, and online. It is possible that you have not actually missed any lab activity since they sometimes don't start right away. If you did in fact miss a lab, you should contact the Lab Manager, Roger Key, immediately: 559-278-2728 or [rogerk@csufresno.edu](mailto:rogerk@csufresno.edu). When making contact by email always include your lab course in the subject line (2A or B, 4A or B, etc.).

### Q: I'm enrolled in a lab, but a different lab better fits my schedule. Can I attend the other lab?

A: No. To make a permanent change to your lab, you'll need to go through the online add/drop routine - there is a "swap" feature for labs so you don't have to drop and be in danger of not getting back in, so use that. Never drop a lab without getting in a new section at the same time. That's what the swap function is for. If the lab is showing no slots available, perhaps someone in the physics department office (McL 173) can help you out. If you attend a lab where you are not enrolled, without permission, that grade will NOT count.

**Q: I am undergoing medical treatment / play on a Fresno State sports team / will represent Fresno State at an academic event / etc ... and must miss a lab in the near future. Can I make up the lab this one time?**

A: Yes. Legitimate medical reasons will be accommodated with documentation. Bring in a doctor's note at least one week in advance of the expected absence, stating the date range you will need to be away from class for treatment, and we will arrange for you to attend a different lab that week. Similarly, if you are on a sports team, or will be away from campus for an official Fresno State academic event, bring in a note from your coach or professor and a makeup can be arranged. All of this is arranged at least one week advance. Make arrangements with Roger Key, 559-278-2728 or rogerk@csufresno.edu. When making contact by email always include your lab course in the subject line (2A or B, 4A or B, etc.).

**Q: I was unexpectedly ill, and did not attend lab. Can I make it up?**

A: Possibly. If you fall ill during the semester and must miss class or lab, get a doctor's note and contact Roger Key (559-278-2728 or rogerk@csufresno.edu) immediately. When making contact by email always include your lab course in the subject line (2A or B, 4A or B, etc.). The campus health center can issue a doctor's note. Make sure it shows the date range when you were unfit to attend class, and if your lab falls in that range, an arrangement can be made if you notify us in time. In order to arrange a makeup, documentation is critical. If you have no documentation, no makeup lab will be allowed. The note from your doctor's visit should also state you were unfit to attend class – a verification of visit is not enough. You will then use this absence as your dropped grade. Your lowest one lab activity score and one quiz score are dropped at the end of the semester to cover these situations.

**Q: I had a flat tire, car trouble, or some other life event that prevented me from getting to lab. Can I make this up?**

A: No. We drop one lab activity score at the end of the semester to cover cases such as these. See the question above about being unexpectedly ill.

**Q: Where do I find my grades?**

A: You can usually find your lab grades on Blackboard. During the first few weeks of the semester, your lab will become available on blackboard. You should monitor your grades regularly. If you can't see your grades on Blackboard, ask your instructor to post them. At the end of the semester, grades may be normalized, and those will not be re-posted to blackboard, as small grade shifts seldom have an impact on your final course grade.