

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS**

Course #:	PSCI 3304 CRN 11811
Course Title:	Physical Science II
Credit Hrs:	3.0
Term:	Fall 2023
Course Meetings & Location:	Tu & Th 12:30 – 2:20 pm (Mountain Time) Physical Science Building 220
Prerequisite Courses:	-
Course Fee: (if applicable)	-
Instructor:	Dr. Felicia S. Manciu
Office Location:	PSCI 221 B
Contact Info:	Phone # : (915) 747 8472
	E-mail address: fmanciu@utep.edu
	Fax #: (915) 747 5447
	Emergency Contact: (915) 747 5715
Office Hrs:	Tuesday, Thursday 11:00 am – 12:00 pm (MT)
Materials:	<i>The Laboratory Section is mandatory for this course.</i> <i>For the Laboratory Section please purchase two spiral bound lab books, “Electricity” and “Light and Color”, from the UTEP Print Shop.</i> -Scientific calculator (with at least sin, cos, and tan functions).

Course Objectives (learning Outcomes):

The objective of the course is to allow you to experience for yourself that some of the theories and laws of physics that you will learn in Physical Science II – PSCI 3304 actually do *work*, meaning that the real physical world around us does indeed behave in the way described by the theories and laws. In Physical Science II, you will learn some important ideas related to electricity and geometric optics. A basic, yet correct, understanding of the concepts of charge and current will allow you to better understand a multitude of electrical devices and phenomena that you encounter every day. While electricity will be the focus of the first half of the course, geometric optics will be the focus of the second half. You will learn about the reflection and refraction laws that you come across daily. Throughout the course, you will also develop written, interpersonal, and communication skills that are critical to your future career as a teacher. I hope you are looking forward to working together, learning from each other, and supporting one another’s success, as much as I am.

Course Structure:

This is a face-to-face course that includes both regularly scheduled on-site classroom meetings dedicated to performing hands-on experiments with your classmates under the instruction of your professor and teaching assistant (85% of the time) and lecture components. The lecture notes presenting theoretical concepts of the course content will be available via Blackboard. Please review them ahead of the face-to-face meetings. Lectures for reviewing experimental findings will also take place at the end of each hands-on experiment.

Grading

Attendance & In-Class Participation	10%
Lab reports (performed in class)	20 %
Quizzes & Homework	15 %
Midterm Exam	25%
Final	30 %

Attendance & Make-up Policy:

Attendance is critical for your success in this class. Please arrive on time and be prepared for the day's activities. Please notify me of any extenuating circumstances that may prevent your attendance. In the event of an absence, the student must make up and submit any missed work within one week from the absence. It is the student's responsibility to contact the professor immediately to find out how to make up any missing work.

Laboratory Reports:

Every student should have its own spiral-bound lab books "*Electricity*" and "*Light and Color*" for independent writing of laboratory reports.

Exams:

Exams will consist of problems very similar to the worked example problems and quizzes. Exams will be strictly closed-laboratory book and notes. You should bring with you a pocket calculator to work out the answers to numerical problems: **make sure the battery is charged!**

No cell phones allowed in the exams!

The best way to prepare for the exams is to review your laboratory reports and study the example problems regularly – this is the best way to ensure your understanding of the material. Feel free to form study groups with your classmates and seek help from your instructor during her office hours as you attempt to solve and understand the concepts and problems. Make sure that you understand the problem solutions and write them up yourself.

Communication:

There are also a number of ways we can keep the communication channels open:

- **Office Hours:** My office hours (posted above) will be held and during the following times:
Tuesday(s): 11:00 am – 12:00 pm Mountain Time
Thursday(s): 11:00 am – 12:00 pm Mountain Time
- **Email:** UTEP e-mail is the best way to contact me. I will make every attempt to respond to your e-mail within 24-48 hours of receipt. When e-mailing me, be sure to email from your UTEP student account and please put the course number in the subject line. In the body of your e-mail, clearly state your question. At the end of your e-mail, be sure to put your first and last name, and your university identification number.
- **Announcements:** Check the Blackboard announcements frequently for any updates, deadlines, or other important messages.
- **Discussion Board:** If you have a question that you believe other students may also have, please post it in the Help Board of the discussion boards inside of Blackboard. Please respond to other students' questions if you have a helpful response.

Tentative Schedule for the Semester (this may be modified throughout the semester)

Week #	Module	Date		Course Activities/Assignments:
1	Introduction (face-to-face)	Tu	29-Aug	-Professor introduce herself to the students. -Getting familiar with the syllabus. -Material required for the course. -Overview of the course topics: “Electricity” and “Light and Color” -Students get familiar with their peers by short personal introduction. -Students divide into groups of their preference.
2	Electricity Lab 1: Charge (face-to-face)	Th	31-Aug	-Performing hands-on experiments (2 hours)
	Lecture 1 (face-to-face)	Tu	5-Sep	-Online lecture on concepts of charge, polarization, types of materials, electric forces, Coulomb’s law, and current (lecture notes already posted on Bb) (2 hours).
3	Electricity Lab 2: Current (face-to-face)	Th	7-Sep	-Performing hands-on experiments (2 hours) -Report Lab 1 due -Quiz
	Electricity Lab 3: Direction of current (face-to-face)	Tu	12-Sep	-Performing hands-on experiments (2 hours) -Quiz
4	Electricity Lab 3: Direction of current (face-to-face)	Th	14-Sep	-Performing hands-on experiments (2 hours) -Report Lab 2 due -Quiz
	Lecture 2 (face-to-face)	Tu	19-Sep	-Online lecture on Ohm’s law, resistors, resistance, and resistors in series and parallel (lecture notes already posted on Bb) (2 hours).
5	Electricity Lab 4: Simple circuits (series, parallel) (face-to-face)	Th	21-Sep	-Performing hands-on experiments (2 hours) - Report Lab 3 due -Quiz
	Electricity Lab 4: Simple circuits (series, parallel) (face-to-face)	Tu	26-Sep	-Performing hands-on experiments (2 hours) -Solving homework problem at the end of lab. manual on resistors in series and parallel.
6	Electricity Lab 5: Resistance (face-to-face)	Th	28-Sep	-Performing hands-on experiments (2 hours) -Report Lab 4 and homework due -Quiz
	Electricity Lab 6: Capacitors (face-to-face)	Tu	3-Oct	-Performing hands-on experiments (2 hours) -Report Lab 5 due

7	Electricity Lab 7: Electric circuits (face-to-face)	Th	5-Oct	-Performing hands-on experiments (2 hours) -Report Lab 6 due
	Lecture 3 (face-to-face)	Tu	10-Oct	-Overview of concepts learned – preparation for the upcoming Midterm Exam (2 hours – face-to-face) -Report Lab 7 due
8	EXAM	Th	12-Oct	Midterm Exam on Electricity (2 hours) (in-person during class schedule)
9	Light and Color Lab 1: Light and Illumination (face-to-face)	Tu	17-Oct	-Performing hands-on experiments (2 hours) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does light leave a bulb? • What are shadows? • What happens to the shadow if there is more than one source of light?
	Light and Color Lab 2: Reflection of Light (face-to-face)	Th	19-Oct	-Performing hands-on experiments (2 hours) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you always see mirror reflections? • How does light reflect from a mirror? • Does light reflect from paper? • How can you read a paper if it's hidden from your direct view? -Report Lab 1 due
10	Lecture 4 (face-to-face)	Tu	24-Oct	-Online lecture on concepts of light, shadows, pinhole, mirrors, and reflection law (lecture notes already posted on Blackboard) (2 hours).
	Light and Color Lab 2: Reflection of Light (face-to-face)	Th	26-Oct	-Performing hands-on experiments (2 hours) -Report Lab 2 and homework due -Quiz
11	Light and Color Lab 3: Refraction and Real Images (face-to-face)	Tu	31-Oct	- Performing hands-on experiments (2 hours) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does a lens do? • How does light change direction when passing through a transparent material? • Properties of the converging lenses -Quiz
	Lecture 5 (face-to-face)	Th	2-Nov	-Online lecture on concepts of refraction law, lenses, and human eye (lecture notes already posted on Blackboard) (2 hours).
Course drop date:			November 3rd, 2023	
12	Light and Color Lab 3: Refraction and Real Images (face-to-face)	Tu	7-Nov	-Performing hands-on experiments (2 hours) -Report Lab 3 and homework due -Quiz
	Light and Color Lab 4: Images	Th	9-Nov	- Performing hands-on experiments (2 hours) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mirror Images

	that cannot be formed on screens (face-to-face)			-Quiz
13	Light and Color Lab 4: Images that cannot be formed on screens (face-to-face)	Tu	14-Nov	-Performing hands-on experiments (2 hours) -Report Lab 4 and homework due -Quiz
	Light and Color Lab 5: The Eye and Achromatic Vision (face-to-face)	Th	16-Nov	-Performing hands-on experiments (2 hours) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eye elements and their functions • Near sightedness and Far sightedness
14	Light and Color Lab 6: Color Addition and Color Vision	Tu	21-Nov	-Performing hands-on experiments (2 hours) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Color Addition and Color Vision • More about Color Vision -Report Lab 5 and homework due
	Lecture 6 (face-to-face)	Tu	28-Nov	Overview of concepts learned – preparation for the upcoming Final Exam (2 hours – face-to-face) -Report Lab 6 due
15	Lecture 7 (face-to-face)	Th	30-Nov	Overview of concepts learned – preparation for the upcoming Final Exam (2 hours – face-to-face)
		Tu	5-Dec	
	Final exam			

Technology Requirements:

Part of the course content will be delivered synchronous via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system (LMS). Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you have access to the Web and a stable web browser. Mozilla Firefox and Google Chrome are the most supported browsers for Blackboard; other browsers may cause complications with the LMS. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser.

You will need to have or have access to a computer/laptop, scanner, a webcam, and a microphone. You will need to download or update the following software: Microsoft Office, Adobe, Flashplayer, Windows Media Player, QuickTime, and Java. Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date and able to access all parts of the course. If you encounter technical difficulties beyond your

scope of troubleshooting, please contact the [Help Desk](#) as they are trained specifically in assisting with technological needs of students.

Scholastic Integrity:

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as ones' own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution \(OSCCR\)](#) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit [HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline](#).

Netiquette: Always consider audience. Respect and courtesy must be provided to classmates and to professor at all times. No harassment or inappropriate behavior will be tolerated. Remember that members of the class and the instructor will be reading any online postings. When reacting to someone else's message, address the ideas, not the person. Post only what anyone would comfortably state in a face-to-face situation. Blackboard is not a public internet venue; all postings to it should be considered private and confidential. Whatever is posted on in these online spaces is intended for classmates and professor only. Please do not copy documents and paste them to a publicly accessible website, blog, or other space. If students wish to do so, they have the ethical obligation to first request the permission of the writer(s).

Military Statement: If you are a military student with the potential of being called to military service and/or training during the course of the semester, you are encouraged to contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

Accommodations Policy:

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the [UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#) (CASS). Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, or email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the [CASS portal](#).

COVID 19 Accommodations:

Students are not permitted on campus when they have a positive COVID-19 test, exposure or symptoms. Students who are considered high risk according to CDC guidelines and/or those who live with individuals who are considered high risk may contact [Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#) (CASS) to discuss temporary accommodations for on-campus courses and activities.

COVID-19 Precautions:

You must STAY AT HOME and REPORT if you (1) have been diagnosed with COVID-19, (2) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (3) have had recent contact with a person who has received a

positive coronavirus test. Reports should be made at screening.utep.edu. If you know of anyone who should report any of these three criteria, you should encourage them to report. If the individual cannot report, you can report on their behalf by sending an email to COVIDaction@utep.edu.

For each day that you attend campus—for any reason—you must complete the questions on the UTEP screening website (screening.utep.edu) prior to arriving on campus. The website will verify if you are permitted to come to campus. Under no circumstances should anyone come to class when feeling ill or exhibiting any of the known COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, and alternative instruction will be provided. Students are advised to minimize the number of encounters with others to avoid infection. Wear face coverings when in common areas of campus or when others are present. You must wear a face covering over your nose and mouth at all times in this class. If you choose not to wear a face covering, you may not enter the classroom. If you remove your face covering, you will be asked to put it on or leave the classroom. Students who refuse to wear a face covering and follow preventive COVID-19 guidelines will be dismissed from the class and will be subject to disciplinary action according to Section 1.2.3 *Health and Safety* and Section 1.2.2.5 *Disruptions* in the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures.

Please note that if COVID-19 conditions deteriorate in the City of El Paso, all course and lab activities may be transitioned to remote delivery.