

Homework

Some assignments will be short, or I will find that I just don't have the time to grade them properly. In this case I just check that you gave me something plausible, and I will give 5 points or so.

Points are deducted for various reasons, as listed below.

Things not to do

Missing or illegible answers: -2 to ??? (depending on the value of each question)

"Missing" means that questions or problems assigned are not answered. This applies even if you answered something else instead. If you know your assignment is incomplete, you might as well complete it and hand it in the next day.

Torn, wrinkled, dirty, messy.... yet legible: -1 to -3

"Torn" papers includes the little fringe on papers torn ruthlessly from a spiral bound notebook. Yes, I am being nitpicky.

Incorrect or vague answers: -1 to -4

Generally I will select just some items to check for correctness. Correct answers to questions will use complete sentences and include justification. Correct answers to problems will include formulas, quantities (number and unit), and answers with units. Some assignments will specify that problems should be explained with a sentence or two.

Late, turned in by the next class meeting: 80%

Work is due at the beginning of the period assigned. After that moment, you lose 20%. Don't work on it during class time (my class or anybody else's). Just bring it in by the next class meeting.

Two class meetings late: 60%

Get it in already!

Third day late: no credit

Don't fret, just get on with the next assignment.

Substantially identical work: no credit

While you are encouraged to work together, you must then write up your own individualized answers. If substantial portions of your homework are identical to those of another student, you will receive no credit for the assignment.

Your Secret Decoder Kit or

What are all those scribbles on my homework?

Late = "Late"

atqa = "Answer the question asked." (you gave an answer, but not to this question)

cs = answers must be in complete sentences

md - more detail needed

f/g - formula and/or given info is missing from your work

sw - show work

units - units missing from answer

BL - Bull Loney (you gave a wordy yet insubstantial answer)

Anderson Physics Homework Setup Guidelines

I really want you to succeed in this course; therefore, I am providing you with a specific format for your homework. This format should be followed for all concept questions and calculation questions. One-word answers, partial-sentence answers or just numerical answers are not acceptable. The question must somehow be part of the answer. Here are some examples that you may find useful.

Concept questions

1. Does every moving body possess kinetic energy? Does every stationary body possess potential energy? Explain.

Good Answer: Yes, all moving objects must possess kinetic energy because to have kinetic energy means to have velocity. $[KE = 1/2 mv^2]$. To possess potential energy an object must have some height above a reference point $[PE = mgh]$. An object may be at rest but with not height above its reference point.

Bad Answer: Yes, No... kinetic = moving. Potential = height.

2. How does a prism work?

Good Answer: When white light strikes a prism, it refracts due to a change in the material in which the light is traveling. Since how fast light travels in a substance depends on wavelength, each color will travel at a difference speed. Since each color travels at a different speed, the colors separate out and form the rainbow.

Bad Answer: It separates it into colors by dispersion and refraction.

Calculation Questions must show all work:

- **Given info**
- **Equation used**
- **Plug in values**
- **Answer in box (with units)**

1. What is the velocity of an object that travels 720 meters in 360 seconds?

Good Answer:

$$\begin{array}{l} D = 720\text{m} \\ T = 360\text{s} \end{array} \quad V = D/T \quad \begin{array}{l} V = 720\text{m} / 360\text{s} \\ \boxed{V = 2 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}} \end{array}$$

Bad Answer:

$$2 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$

If you do not follow the above guidelines, you should not expect to receive full credit for your work.