

Dec. 10, 2008

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS–Physics 407 Advanced Laboratory

1. A research lab notebook is required. These notebooks are 9x12 in, 150 numbered pages, a metal spiral binding, and thick paper quadrule pages. The bookstore stocks the AMPAD 22-157 notebook which is our standard. Leave several pages blank for an index.
2. The required text for statistics is “Data Reduction and Error Analysis for the Physical Sciences”, by P. Bevington and D. Robinson, now in the Third Edition.
3. All the experimental writeups are available on the Web.
4. The scheduled lab time is 1-5 PM. If you need to leave the lab early, tell the Instructor and your lab partner.
5. In order to start a new experiment you will have to understand the basic physics. At a minimum this will require reading and understanding the writeup. The Instructor will ask you basic questions to check your understanding.
6. The lab notebook should be kept as a research notebook. This means that it contains all relevant data and observations so that you could write a paper about the experiment long after the experiment is finished.
7. One credit people typically will do four experiments and two credit people will do 6-8 depending on the level of difficulty and time spent on the more advanced experiments.
8. Never turn on any equipment until you have been checked out by the Instructor.
9. When leaving for the day, review your session progress with the instructor.
10. Always leave your notebook in the lab on the designated shelf unless you have made an arrangement to take the lab book with you.