



Student Success Office

Tips for Success

PHY 100

Study tips:

- 1) *Before class:* Read the relevant chapter before the lecture, so you are not seeing the material for the first time in class. You will get more out of the lecture and be better prepared to ask beneficial questions.
- 2) *Before lab:* Read the lab before coming to the lab so you do not waste valuable lab time trying to figure out what the lab is about. Make sure you complete every pre-lab before the beginning of each lab. Reach out to me if you have questions.
- 3) Print out the exam formula sheet and use it to do your homework. This way you become familiar with using the formula sheet to solve problems which will help you be more proficient on the exam.
- 4) Take advantage of all that is provided in Canvas. Posted simulations, videos, links, etc..., are meant to aid your understanding of the material and are put there for your benefit.
- 5) Do your homework. You have at least a week for each assignment, and you are given 5 tries per problem. Reach out to me for hints if you get stuck. Homework is worth the same as two exams. There is no reason not to get 100% on your homework. The best you can do in the course if you do not do your homework is an 85.
- 6) Connect with other serious students so you can help each other better understand the material and work together on assignments.
- 7) Lectures are recorded, so go back and review sections that you are struggling to understand.
- 8) Don't be afraid to reach out to me when you need help. Students who speak to me throughout the semester perform better than students who do not speak to me at all. I want you to succeed and I am happy to do all I can to help you improve your performance.
- 9) Take advantage of the Math and Physics tutors at the [1st Quadrant Math Center](#). This is a free service offered by the college (**see below**).
- 10) PHY 100 is not very Math intensive, but you will struggle if you are weak in Algebra. Brush up on your Algebra skills if needed, before taking the course.
- 11) We cover a lot of material in a short time which is the most challenging part of the

course, so it is important for success in the course that you do not fall behind.

- 12) Never get discouraged, and never give up. Many students think they are doing worse than they really are and get mentally down, negatively affecting their performance. Don't be afraid to talk to me for any reason!
- 13) If you have a learning disability, let me know on the first day. Don't wait until the middle or end of the semester.
- 14) If you suffer from test anxiety, please reach out to our [Academic Support Services](#) (**see below**).
- 15) You can transform your life through education, but be prepared to work for that education. Anything worthwhile in life requires work. Minimal effort will not bring you success in this course.

Assistance if you need it:

- 1) **me!** (check syllabus)
- 2) **Tutoring:** 1st Quadrant Math Center:
<https://www.pvcc.edu/first-quadrant-math-center>
- 3) **Academic Support/ Academic Coaching:** Student Resources on our Canvas page or call 434.961.5499. We all have to learn how to learn! This service can help you figure out how to manage your time, your learning style, deal with test anxiety, etc.
- 4) **Student Success Office:** Student Resources on Canvas or 434.961.6551
 - a. Sometimes life gets in the way of school. We all have things come up and may need help trying to sort through how to best deal with the situation at hand. Whether you just need to talk to someone about what is going on or you want someone to help you set educational and personal goals, the student success office can help.
 - b. Even *after hours* someone is available to talk with you! (call 434-961-7777, 8AM-7PM or schedule an appointment: 434-961-5264)