Charles Tahan (cgtahan@students.wisc.edu) Physics 104: calculus-less Electricity & Magnetism Spring 2000

1 TA Stuff

1.1 My Sections

Section	Discussion	Lab
311	4:35pm Th, Sterling 2327	7:05 pm W, Sterling 4405
320	8:50am Th, Sterling 1407	2:25pm W, Sterling 4405
355	3:30pm Th, Sterling 3331	12:05pm Th, Sterling 4331

1.2 Office Hours/Consultation Room

All the TA office hours occur in the same place—Sterling 2402—and are spread out over Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, nearly all day. We were operating on the assumption that no one would care about Physics 104 after they turned in their homework wed. afternoon.

Specifically, I'll be in the room for 2 hours: Monday at 2:25pm and Wednesday at 1:20pm. If you have questions before the turn of the week (I'm impressed!) or if desperation ever ensues, my schedule is on the back of this page and my office is 3518 Sterling. I reserve the right to kick you out if I have too much other stuff to do though (I am a physics graduate student you know).

2 Why you should be nice to your TA

Events	TA power	Percent of Grade
Exams(3):	None	45%
Final:	None	30%
Homework:	More	10%
Quizzes:	Large	5%
Labs:	Almighty	10%

And **most importantly:** I'm the guy who fights for your grade when you're just on the borderline come the end of the semester. With almost five-hundred students in this class it's very difficult if not impossible for the professor to know or care about you.

3 Discussion

Since the powers that be—whose wisdom must far outreach ours—scheduled discussion sections the day after homework is due, we're undoubtedly going to find it hard to seriously worry about the problems for next week. But if you can force yourselves to bring questions (either about the previous homework set, the next one, or in general), it will help avoid the pain and suffering that might occur Tuesday night. I'd greatly appreciate it.

4 Labs

The details of the lab policy are on the syllabus so I won't go into much detail here. The basic conclusion is that missing labs can really hurt your grade. Unfortunately, there aren't scheduled-in makeup lab days so you'll have to go to one of my other section's labs for a makeup (see me). Here's some more syllabus regurgitation and my policies:

- Get (if you don't have yours from 103) a quad-ruled notebook to keep your lab notes in. Bring it to the first lab; it will stay in the room.
- Put your name in the top right hand corner of each page you use.
- Before you leave lab, get me to initial and date your lab book.

- The whole idea is that this notebook will be your sole source of information for the (short) lab quizzes given every week. If you keep a good lab notebook, you'll ace the quizzes; otherwise, you won't.
- Personally, how you take down the data doesn't concern me just so long as you can get to it come quiz time.
- I understand how these quizzes could sometimes be unfair (say if the experiment didn't quite work for you)—that's why your lab grade isn't completely determined by them. Enthusiasm does count.
- Don't expect sympathy if your lab notebook's a piece of crap and you do badly on the quizzes.

5 Generally...

- I'm here to make your life easier so feel free to ask questions and to bother me.
- E&M's a cool subject. I think it's the closest thing to magic you ever get in physics, no matter how well you understand it.
- I hope you have a good semester.