

## PHY138Y1Y: Physics for the Life Sciences I

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“Physics is the universe’s operating system.”

-- Steven R. Garman

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## People of PHY138Y

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- Course coordinator
  - Lecturers
  - Laboratory coordinator
  - Laboratory and Demonstration Technologists
  - About 60 Teaching Assistants for Tutorials and Laboratories
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## 2 Parts of PHY138Y

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### □ “Theoretical Physics”

- Lectures and Tutorials
- Coordinator: Dr. Pierre Savaria

### □ “Experimental Physics”

- The Laboratory
  - Coordinator: Dr. Ruxandra Serbanescu
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## Dr. David Harrison

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- PhD – U. of T. – Elementary Particle Physics
  - Professional Interests:
    - Foundations of Physics
    - How people learn
    - Effective use of computers in teaching
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## About Learning Physics 1

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There are only a few powerful *concepts*.

- Once you know the concepts, their application to numerical problems is easy!
- Memorising formulas is not a good learning strategy.

In PHY138, tests and exams will tend to emphasise concepts.

## About Learning Physics 2

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Each concept builds on previous ones.

Assimilating any powerful concept takes time.

- Keep up with your studies.
  - The “last minute cram” before a test or exam is unlikely to help.
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## Doing Well at University

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- Time Management is very important.
  - Take responsibility for yourself.
  - Consider joining or forming a study group.
  - When problems or questions arise, contact the prof, TA, etc.
    - Ignored problems do not go away, they just get worse!
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## For Wednesday's Class:

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- Read the following sections of Chapter 1 of the textbook
    - 1.1 – 1.5
    - 1.7 – 1.8
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