

PHYS 0475

From Michael Wood-Vasey

I teach "Honors Physics 1 for Scientists and Engineers" (PHYS 0475). This course is designed for those looking for a challenge and deeper understanding of physics. It is the Honors version of PHYS 0174*. Students should have taken high school physics and calculus. While we definitely recommend that prospective Physics majors take this course, the majority of students in this course are engineers, with a few chemists and students from the SCI.

I additionally recommend that students who received AP credit such that they are not required to take PHYS 0174 to take PHYS 0475 instead of taking the fall version of PHYS 0175. Half of the reason to take honors courses is because of the other students taking that Honors course with you. The fall PHYS 0175 course has a much higher fraction of students who are taking the course again, had to wait to take the course because of their math requirements, or have to take the course but it's not a prereq for other courses in their chosen majors. While we have the same nominal requirements and grading in the fall and spring versions of PHYS 0175, the effective experience of the cohort of students taking the course is notable different. In particular, physics majors who skip PHYS 0174 and take the fall version PHYS 0175 tend to be very surprised by the steep jump to PHYS 0477.