

STUDY AIDS

1. **Conference instructors.** You meet in conference on Tuesdays and Thursdays to discuss the physical significance of the material you have studied and to perfect your problem-solving skills. This is a chance to ask questions, explore dilemmas, and discuss insights. Your conference instructor will post office hours for outside-of-class assistance.
2. **Study guides.** Study guides include the objectives for the next portion of the course, study suggestions, homework assignments, and occasional comments.
3. **Lecture capture.** The lectures are captured electronically. They usually appear online the same day as the lecture. You may review them as many times as you wish. We recommend stopping the program when a problem is introduced. Try the problem yourself, and then run the program to see if you have solved it correctly.
4. **Mastering Physics.** In your web browser, go to www.masteringphysics.com. Follow the instructions packaged with your electronic access kit. Your homework assignments and reading questions will be done at this web site. The Course ID is PH1110A13SECTIONS7TO18.
5. **Clicker questions.** Clickers will be used in lecture and in conference. Borrow a clicker from the Academic Technology Center. If you fail to return the clicker at the end of the term, you will be charged \$75. You must register your clicker in order to receive credit. For more information, please go to:
<http://www.wpi.edu/Academics/Depts/Physics/Courses/ph1110a13/ResponseWare.html>.
6. **Help Sessions - Think MASH!** The Math And Science Help program has been operating for over twenty years and has been very valuable for the students who take advantage of the MASH help sessions (as indicated on course evaluation forms at the end of past courses). Tutoring sessions are available as well. The MASH and tutoring schedules will be posted at a link from <http://www.wpi.edu/offices/arc/mash.html>.
7. **Physics Helpdesk.** Physics graduate students will be available a number of hours each week in Olin 118 to answer questions and to provide assistance. A schedule will be posted on the door of the room and online.
8. **Other students.** We're convinced that students often learn much more from each other than they do from faculty members. Study with friends. Review with each other. Work on problems together. **HOWEVER!** Don't blindly copy someone's problem solution, because you don't learn much that way; do get help from each other when you need to learn how to set up a problem. Your objective should be to understand the problem, not merely to get a right answer. Some students spend hours batting their heads against a particular problem that they can't solve. That's not an efficient way to use your study time. After you've made an attempt (say, fifteen minutes or so), ask someone else if they've tried it. Try to figure out why you had trouble, and how you can avoid the trouble next time. If that doesn't help, write

yourself a note to remind you to ask about it in conference, MASH, or at the Physics Helpdesk.

9. **Email.** Contact instructors via email; email is often a quick way to get an answer to a question. We expect you to look at your WPI email at least once a day for messages from us.
10. **Course materials.** Point your web browser to the URL
<http://www.wpi.edu/Academics/Depts/Physics/Courses/ph1110a13/ph1110a13.html>