

Instructor: Howard Haber  
Office: ISB, Room 326  
Phone Number: 459-4228  
Office Hours: Mondays 2–4 pm  
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**COURSE WEB PAGE:**

<http://scipp.ucsc.edu/~haber/ph116C/index.html>

**CLASS HOURS:**

Lectures: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2–3:45 pm, Physical Sciences Building, Room 110  
Discussion Section: Mondays, 5–6:10 pm, Earth & Marine Sciences Building, Room B214

**CLASS TEACHING ASSISTANT:**

TA: Angelo Monteux  
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Phone Number: 459-1962  
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**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:**

*Mathematical Methods in the Physical Sciences*, 3rd edition, by Mary L. Boas

**Other introductory texts:**

*Mathematical Methods for Physicists*, 6th edition, by George B. Arfken and Hans J. Weber  
*Advanced Engineering Mathematics*, by Erwin Kreyszig  
*Mathematical Methods for Scientists and Engineers*, by Donald A. McQuarrie

**PREREQUISITES:**

Prerequisite math courses: Physics 116B.

**COURSE GRADING:**

40% Weekly Homework (9 problem sets)  
25% Midterm Exam (Thursday November 3, 2011 from 2–3:45 pm)  
35% Final Exam (Thursday December 8, 2011 from 8–11 am)

**Course Outline for Physics 116C**

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>
1. Series solutions of differential equations	Boas Chapter 12, sections 1, 11
2. Legendre polynomials and functions	Boas, Chapter 12, sections 2–10
3. Bessel functions	Boas, Chapter 12, sections 12–20
4. Fuchs' Theorem and the Sturm-Liouville problem	Boas, Chapter 12, section 21
5. Hermite and Laguerre functions and polynomials	Boas, Chapter 12, section 22
6. Partial differential equations of mathematical physics	Boas, Chapter 13, sections 1–4
7. Problems with cylindrical and spherical symmetry	Boas, Chapter 13, sections 5–7
8. Potential theory and Green function techniques	Boas, Chapter 13, section 8
9. Integral transform solutions of partial differential equations	Boas, Chapter 13, section 9
10. Theory of probability	Boas Chapter 15, sections 1–4
11. Random variables and probability distributions	Boas Chapter 15, sections 5–9
12. Statistics and experimental measurements	Boas, Chapter 15, section 10

**Course Requirements**

Homework assignments will be posted on the course website on a weekly basis, and are due at the beginning of class on the due date specified on the assignment sheet. The homework problem sets are not optional. You are encouraged to discuss the class material and homework problems with your classmates and to work in groups, but all submitted problems should represent your own work and understanding. In order that homework can be graded efficiently and returned quickly, there will be a 50% penalty for late homework. This penalty may be waived in special circumstances if you see me before the original due date. Homework solutions will be posted to the course website one or two days after the official due date; no late homeworks will be accepted after that.

The midterm exam and final exam will be held in the same classroom as the lectures. The midterm exam will be 1 hour and 45 minutes long and cover the first half of the course. The final exam will be three hours long and cover the complete course material. You must take the final exam to pass the course. You will be permitted to consult the class textbook, your own handwritten notes, and any class handout during the exams.