Honolulu Community College
General Education – DIVERSIFICATION DESIGNATION
Certification and Recertification
Application Form
Spring 2012

APPLICANT: Kerry Tanimoto

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COURSE ALPHA and NUMBER: PHYS 272L

COURSE TITLE: General Physics II Laboratory

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF SECTIONS:
Fall: 0
Spring: 1

APPLICATION IS FOR:
[ ] New Course [ ] Modified Course [X] Existing Course [ ] Re-designation
[ ] Certification [X] Re-Certification. Date of last certification: 

DIVERSIFICATION AREA DESIGNATION SOUGHT:
[ ] DA (Arts) [ ] DP (Physical Sciences)
[ ] DB (Biological Sciences) [ ] DS (Social Sciences)
[ ] DH (Humanities) X DY (Laboratory)
[ ] DL (Literature and Language)

What percentage of the CONTENT of this course focuses on this diversification area? 90

What percentage of CLASS MEETINGS focuses on this diversification area? 90
Guidelines and explanatory notes for the following questions are located at the end of this document.

1. **Hallmarks and SLOs.** Please explain how course-specific SLOs align with the diversification area’s hallmarks.

**SLOs for PHYS 272L:**
In order to improve the efficiency of this application, the SLOs for the course have been numbered as follows:

- SLO 1. Employ proper techniques when making scientific measurements
- SLO 2. Demonstrate the ability to use selected pieces of measuring devices
- SLO 3. Demonstrate the ability to use the computer as a data analysis tool
- SLO 4. Demonstrate the ability to interface the computer to serve as both a control and measuring device
- SLO 5. Demonstrate the ability to maintain a laboratory notebook
- SLO 6. Apply the appropriate physics to the physical situation presented
- SLO 7. Quantitatively analyze experimental data
- SLO 8. Formulate and report scientific conclusions based on data analysis
- SLO 9. Prepare lab reports in standard scientific format

**DP.1 uses the laboratory methods of the biological or physical sciences:**
Fundamental methods used in the physical science laboratory include: using the computer as both a control and data-taking device (SLO 4), and as a data analysis instrument (SLO 3); the keeping of a notebook (SLO 5); analyzing data using appropriate scientific methods (SLO 7); formulating logical conclusions from the data (SLO 8); formally reporting those conclusions in customary scientific fashion (SLO 9). These SLOs all address this hallmark.

**DP.2 involves processes and issues of design, testing, and measurement:**
Issues of design and testing in the laboratory are addressed by SLO 1, which requires that the students be able to employ proper laboratory techniques when conducting an experiment. For example, the design of the AC circuit in Week 13 requires the student to determine the optimum values of the circuit elements so that a measurable signal will be produced.

SLO 2 addresses the measurement process and any issues related to conducting measurements using the equipment introduced in the laboratory. Modern laboratories all involve the computer in the testing and measurement aspects of experiments (SLO 4), as in the current and voltage measurements obtained through computer interfaces in the Ohm’s Law lab (Week 7).

**DP.3 demonstrates the strengths and limitations of the scientific method.**
This hallmark is addressed by SLO 6, where the theoretical physics is applied to the experimental situation as is required by the scientific method. Any limitations to the scientific method would manifest themselves in the logic utilized by the students when drawing conclusions from the data (SLO 8). For a variety of reasons, conclusions are often inconsistent with the experimental results. The illumination of any disconnect, serves as a valuable learning tool.
2. **Assessment strategies.** Explain assessment strategies you have used (or plan to use) to measure the degree to which students exit the course with the course-specific SLOs. If there are multiple sections of the course taught by different instructors, please discuss how assessment is (or will be) carried out across instructors.

The primary assessment tools for determining the extent to which the course SLOs have been met for this laboratory course are the laboratory notebook and the formal laboratory reports. The percentage of the overall score associated with the notebook and laboratory reports is not set, as the availability of equipment is somewhat unpredictable due to the limited amount of equipment in stock and the overlapping demands of the various physics laboratory classes running concurrently.

All SLOs with the exception of SLO 9 can be assessed from the notebook submissions. SLO 9 can readily be assessed from the laboratory reports.

At the end of the term, course evaluations are administered, which allow students to assess the instructor and other aspects of the course. These evaluations provide assessment information from the students' perspective.

There is only one instructor teaching this course per term.

3. **Assessment of assessment.** How have you used (or plan to use) the assessment findings to modify or improve this course? If there are multiple sections of the course taught by different instructors, please discuss how review of assessment results is (or will be) carried out across instructors.

The experiments conducted in the laboratory course are scheduled to coincide with the material presented in the lecture. As such, the laboratory notebook and laboratory reports are valuable assessment tools that serve as accurate indicators for determining whether the students are learning the theory presented in lecture to an extent that allows them to apply it to the real world. In the event of a clear lack of understanding among most of the class, the instructor may return to the lecture course and make the appropriate adjustments.

The laboratory notebook and laboratory reports are also good indicators of whether more detail, or a different emphasis, is required in the written descriptions for each experiment presented in the laboratory manual. Editing the laboratory manual is an ongoing process. These assessment tools also provide information on whether the instructor must provide more background and information on the use of laboratory equipment or software, as well as presentation software.

Student evaluations are an important tool that, upon objective review, leads to modifications in pedagogy and instructor persona to improve the likelihood that course SLOs will be achieved.
DIVERSIFICATION BOARD DECISION:

☐ Approved
   Re-Certification Due: Fall 2012

☐ Not approved
   If not approved, reasons for disapproval:

Diversification Board Chair Signature: [Signature]
Date: 9/10/12
**COURSE SYLLABUS – PHYSICS 272L**

INSTRUCTOR: Kerry Tanimoto, Ph.D.

OFFICE: Bldg. 5, Rm. 102-A

PHONE: 845-9154

E-MAIL: kerryt@hawaii.edu

OFFICE HOURS: M 9:00-10:00; T 9:00-10:00, 12:00-1:00; W 9:00-10:00, 1:00-2:00

COURSE TITLE: General Physics II Lab

HOURS PER WEEK: 3

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Experimental analysis in electricity and magnetism and optics.

ARTICULATION:
PHYS 272L fulfills a DY requirement for AA degrees at HCC and UHM

PREREQUISITES: None

CO-REQUISITE: PHYS 272

TEXT: A lab manual will be provided.

MATERIALS:
In addition to the lab manual, you will also be required to bring a bound laboratory notebook (that contains graph paper) and scientific calculator to each lab meeting.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Upon the successful completion of PHYS 272L, the student should be able to:

- Employ proper techniques when making scientific measurements
- Demonstrate the ability to use selected measuring devices
- Demonstrate the ability to use the computer as a data analysis tool
- Demonstrate the ability to interface the computer to serve as both a control and measuring device
• Demonstrate the ability to maintain a laboratory notebook
• Apply the appropriate physics to the physical situation presented
• Quantitatively analyze experimental data
• Formulate and report scientific conclusions based on data analysis
• Prepare lab reports in standard scientific format

GRADING:
The boundaries separating letter grades in the final distribution are chosen based on the standards I have established for the course and are not predetermined numerical values. Grades will be based on the total number of accumulated points. Points will be assigned for work submitted, which will be either the laboratory notebook (Type I labs) or a formal laboratory report (Type II labs).

There are no exams or quizzes for the lab.

Note: The assignment of an “N” in lieu of a letter grade will not be an option for this course.

COMMENTS:
Unlike the lecture, attendance for the lab is required. If you are not present to conduct the experiment, you will not be allowed to submit the corresponding written work. Tardiness to lab is also frowned upon. You must be present for the pre-lab instructions/lecture for your own personal safety and the safety of others, and also to enable the required data to be gathered as efficiently and correctly as possible.
PHYS 272L – LABORATORY SCHEDULE

Week 1:  Lab Introduction

Week 2:  Graphical Analysis Review

Week 3:  Error Analysis Review

Week 4:  The Oscilloscope

Week 5:  Ultrasound

Week 6:  EXAM I

Week 7:  Ohm’s Law

Week 8:  DC Circuits

Week 9:  The RC Circuit

Week 10: EXAM II

Week 11: The Magnetic Field of a Solenoid

Week 12: The DC RLC Circuit

Week 13: AC Circuits

Week 14: Geometric Optics

Week 15: EXAM III

Week 16: No lab