

SEMESTER BY SEMESTER COURSE IMPROVEMENTS

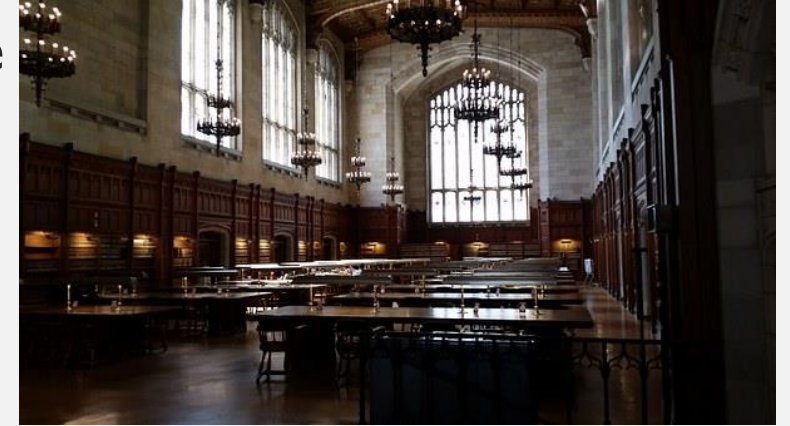


Lance R Curtis
Boise State University
Fall 2017 – Spring 2019



TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

- My professional standard will not permit teaching the same class twice. This means each time I teach a class after the first time, I make some improvement in the class.
- Failure to meet this standard means I fail everyone as an educational professional.
 - If I don't improve my courses, I'm failing my students. I'm not working to give them the best opportunity to learn that I can give them.
 - If I don't improve my courses, I'm failing my employer. I'm not providing added value in exchange for the compensation my employer provides.
 - If I don't improve my courses, I'm failing myself. I'm not pursuing the opportunity to learn and grow into a better educational professional.



OVERVIEW OF SEMESTERS AT BSU

- I began teaching at Boise State University (Boise, ID) during Fall 2017 for the Physics Department.
- The following year I was hired by the Engineering Science Department.
- Because I accepted a new position at the University of Maryland (College Park, MD) to start Fall 2019, I taught my last class at BSU during Spring 2019.
- The following slides list the improvements I made in each course I taught.

Year	Semester	ENGR 120 Intro to Engineering Lab	PHYS 112L General Physics Lab	PHYS 212L Physics with Calculus Lab
2017	Fall		★	★
2018	Spring			★
	Summer			★
	Fall	★		
2019	Spring	★		



ENGR 120 INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING LAB

COURSE DESCRIPTION

- This course has a lecture and lab component which together provide students with an introduction to the engineering profession.
- The highlight of the lab portion is the design and construction of a model wind turbine that generates electric power.

COURSE IMPROVEMENTS

Fall 2018	First semester taught
Spring 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improved course organization in Blackboard to improve student use

PHYS 112L GENERAL PHYSICS LAB

COURSE DESCRIPTION

- Algebra-based physics course for students entering science related career fields other than hard-core science and engineering.
- Course includes thermal science, electricity and magnetism, waveforms, sound, and light and optics.

COURSE IMPROVEMENTS

Fall 2017

First semester taught

PHYS 212L PHYSICS WITH CALCULUS LAB

COURSE DESCRIPTION

- Calculus-based physics course for scientists and engineers.
- Course includes thermal science, electricity and magnetism, waveforms, sound, and light and optics.

COURSE IMPROVEMENTS

Fall 2017	First semester taught
Spring 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Simplified lab reporting structure• Created grading rubric for new report structure
Fall 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improved grading rubric documentation• Beta-tested new lab experiment