

**TENTATIVE SYLLABUS FOR IS 1415.002  
INTEGRATED SCIENCE I  
SPRING 2014**

**Course Description:** Integrated Science I. Four semester hours. (3 lecture, 1 lab)

This is a University Studies science course. The interdisciplinary application of scientific principles to society is emphasized. The scientific principles developed in this course are motion, energy, chemical changes, and other topics typically covered in physical science courses. The overall aim of the course is to teach the students to effectively apply the acquired background to critically examine public issues.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Instructor:**

Albert Menchaca

Office: STC-344

Phone: 903-468-8765 (no voice mail) Cell: 210-639-1957

email: albert.menchaca@tamuc.edu

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays – 12:00noon to 2:00pm or by appointment.

**Textbook:**

**Conceptual Integrated Science, 2nd ed.**, by Hewitt, Lyons, Suchocki, & Yeh,  
Pearson Publishing, ISBN# 978-0-321-81850-8.

**Lecture Time and Place:** TR 2:00p-3:15p in room STC 122

**Labs, time, location:** Section 03L, M 1:00p-2:50p in room STC 107

Section 04L, W 2:00p-3:50p in room STC146

**Student Learning Outcomes**

- \* Students will gain a better understanding of physical science concepts.
- \* Students will better understand scientific processes and test for further scientific knowledge.
- \* Students will understand the conceptual differences between facts, theories, and laws.
- \* Students will be able to compare the separate science disciplines and make integrative connections.

**Grades:**

OPTION I – No Final Exam

Lab	25%
Minitest	<u>75%</u>
TOTAL:	100%

OPTION II – With Final Exam

Lab	25%
Minitest	55%
Final Exam	<u>20%</u>
TOTAL:	100%

The lowest grade of all Minitests except the Final will be dropped.

**Important - There are No Makeup Tests or Minitests. There is No Extra Credit Work**

## **Letter Grade Breakdown:**

**A = 90 and above**

**B = 80-89**

**C = 70-79**

**D = 60-69**

A failing grade in lab will automatically result in a failing grade for the entire course. Four (4) consecutive unexcused absences, or six (6) cumulative unexcused absences, will result in a failing grade. A course which is failed due to excessive absences has more serious financial aid consequences than a course which is failed in spite of regular attendance.

## **Course Outline and Final Exam (Tentative) :**

Week 1-2	Chapter 2 Describing Motion
Week 3	Chapter 3 Newton's Laws of Motion
Week 4-5	Chapter 4 Momentum and Energy
Week 6-7	Chapter 5 Gravity
Week 8	Chapter 6 Heat
Week 9-10	Chapter 7 Electricity and Magnetism
Week 11	Chapter 8 Waves – Sound and Light
Week 12	Chapter 9 Atoms and Periodic Table
Week 13-14	Chapter 11 Investigating Matter

***Optional Final Exam is on Tuesday, May 6 at 1:15pm – 3:15pm***

## **Attendance and Tardiness:**

Students are expected to be on time and present for all class meetings. Excused absences can be arranged prior to the class period being missed for appropriate activities as determined by the instructor. If an emergency results in an absence, the student should contact the instructor as soon as possible informing the instructor of the ***emergency and inquiring about ways to make up the missed class***. The instructor will determine how to handle the situation. Possible reasons for an excused absence are listed in the “Student’s Guidebook” under class attendance policy. Attendance and tardy records will be maintained and both may result in deductions from your overall grade.

## **Classroom Behavior:**

Disorderly conduct which interferes with the normal classroom atmosphere will not be tolerated. The classroom instructor is the judge of such behavior and may instruct a disorderly student to leave the room with an unexcused absence or in more serious situations a student may be removed from the class with a failing grade. Students with cell phones must have cell phones set to silent or vibrate mode. You are not permitted to answer calls during class instruction or examination periods.

## **Cheating and other Breaches of Academic Conduct:**

Academic cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic misconduct may result in removal of the student from class with a failing grade or may in extreme cases result in suspension or expulsion from the University as described in the “Code of Student Conduct” section of the “Student’s Guidebook”.

### **Students with Disabilities:**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services  
Texas A&M University-Commerce  
Gee Library  
Room 132  
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835  
Fax (903) 468-8148  
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu**

### **Evaluation of Instruction:**

Students will be given opportunities to evaluate instruction near the end of the semester. The physics department utilizes a scantron questionnaire with statements regarding various elements of instruction and in addition utilizes an open ended form where students can make comments on all elements of the classroom. These comments are given to the instructor and department head soon after the grades are recorded. If students have concerns about the classroom experience during the semester they should inform the instructor of those concerns and failing a satisfactory response may, as a last resort, ***contact the physics department head with those concerns.***