Advanced Placement in Physics
Many incoming students may have taken AP, IB, or A-Levels exams already, but this year we are asking all students interested in advanced placement into PHYS 114 (Introductory Electricity and Magnetism) or PHYS 200 (Modern Physics-Sophomore Level) to take Vassar's Physics Placement Exam.

Please click the link below to begin the one-hour placement exam.

First-Year Physics Placement Exam

Dates: July 20th - August 30th, 2021
Website: https://forms.gle/ZWnL9sz9rEqBEHy8

INTRODUCTORY PHYSICS COURSES

PHYS 111 - Introduction to Physics I
Semester Offered: Fall
An introduction to the basic concepts of physics with emphasis on mechanics. Not calculus-based. Recommended for Pre-Health students and life science majors. Brian Daly. The Department.
Two 75-minute periods and one 3-hour laboratory.

PHYS 112 - Introduction to Physics II/Lab
Semester Offered: Spring
Fundamentals of electricity, magnetism, and optics. Not calculus-based. Pre-Health students and life science majors. The Department.
Prerequisite(s): PHYS 111 or PHYS 113 or AP credit.
Two 75-minute periods and one 3-hour laboratory.

PHYS 113 - Fundamentals of Physics I/Lab
Semester Offered: Fall
An introduction to the basic concepts of physics with emphasis on mechanics. Calculus-based. Recommended for potential majors in physics and other physical sciences. The Department. The Department. Two 75-minute periods and one 3-hour laboratory.

PHYS 114 - Fundamentals of Physics II/Lab
Semester Offered: Spring (and 1 section in the fall for advanced first-years)
Fundamentals of electricity, magnetism, and optics. Calculus-based. Recommended for potential majors in physics and other physical sciences. The Department.
Prerequisite(s): PHYS 111 or PHYS 113 or AP Credit; or equivalent.
Two 75-minute periods and one 3-hour laboratory.

Introductory Physics Course Sequence
Offered for 2021-2022

**PHYS 111/112** are non-calculus-based introductions to physics that will be ideal for students on Vassar’s pre health track. It will cover more topics than **PHYS 113/114**, including fluids and thermodynamics, but will not spend as much time on mathematics.  

Who is recommended for **PHYS 111/112**? - Pre-health students, science majors who do not anticipate taking any advanced physics courses like the 200 or 300 level physics or physical chemistry courses, or students who want a physics course with a laboratory but do not want to have to worry about how long it’s been since they’ve taken calculus.

Who is recommended for **PHYS 113/114**? - Physics majors, Astronomy majors, Chemistry majors, Math/Stats majors, students considering the Dartmouth engineering program, or any student considering taking 200 or 300 level physics or physical chemistry courses.