

UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

Diagnostic Exam

A diagnostic exam is **required** for both Phys 1301 and Phys 1321.

The required diagnostic exam will test your basic mathematical skills in algebra, geometry, trigonometry and word problem solving. The exam for Phys 1321 will also test calculus skills.

The exam consists of 20 multiple choice questions. It is a one-hour exam and no calculators are allowed. The exam will be administered by CASA Testing Center during the first 10 days of the semester. (See your course's syllabus for specific dates). You can log onto the CASA website at <http://casa.uh.edu> to reserve a test time (for in-person classes) or to take the exam (for online classes).

The diagnostic exam is worth 3% of your final grade for the course. If you score above 70%, you should be well prepared to pass the course; 51 - 70%, you should review algebra, trigonometry and pre-calculus; 50% and below, you should consider dropping the course or re-enrolling once you have improved your math and problem solving skills.

Math Tutorial

If you wish to improve your math skills, you can complete a math tutorial which has been set up by the Department of Physics. The math tutorial course is set up through My Readiness Test, an online math tutorial offered by the publisher of the textbook for the course. If you purchased a textbook from the UH Bookstore, you will receive a free access code to My Readiness Test. If you did not purchase your textbook through the UH bookstore, you can purchase a code for My Readiness test for \$15 through the publisher's website listed below:

http://www.myreadinesstest.com/support/mpt/contactus_stu.htm

See

<https://uh.edu/nsm/physics/undergraduate/intro-course-info/>

for information on how to register and access the math tutorial through My Readiness Test for your course.

Statistics

A study on 543 students enrolled in Phys 1301 at UH showed that of the students who scored below 65% on the diagnostic exam, 78% of those completing the math tutorial passed the course while only 45% of those who did not complete the math tutorial passed the course. These statistics show that it may be your advantage to complete the math tutorial to increase your chances of passing the course.