

PHYS 151 Textbook Bundle

Spring 2013

The textbook and associated materials needed for PHYS 151 are available in the University Bookstore, and are listed on the Schedule of Classes. We recommend that you purchase them from the University Bookstore in order to insure that you buy the right thing, and that you have it on the first day of class. In addition, it's cheaper at the Bookstore than anywhere else. However, owing to the fact that every semester some students mistakenly buy the wrong thing elsewhere and/or do not have necessary materials in time for the first assignments, we are providing this fuller description of the textbook bundle in case you wish to explore this option.

The textbook bundle (ISBN 978-1-256-83076-4) consists of three separate items:

1. *Physics for Scientists and Engineers, with Modern Physics, 3rd edition*, by Knight,
2. *Student Workbook for Physics for Scientists and Engineers, 3rd edition*, by Knight, and
3. *MasteringPhysics Student Access Kit for Physics (Knight), 3rd edition*.

The price of this textbook bundle in the Bookstore is \$186.25, which *would* be high if this were a bundle for a one semester course. However, this bundle will be used for the entire three semester sequence, 151-152-153. The sticker price up front is understandably something of a shock, but amortized over three semesters it's a good deal that cannot be beat. We worked very hard with the publisher and the Bookstore to provide this special bundle to you at this price.

While it is true that you *could* purchase each of the items in the bundle separately online from a variety of sources, doing so will cost more. The price of the bundle is quite a bit less than what it would cost to separately purchase new each of the three items in it. The list prices total \$313.14 which would clearly be unacceptable. You can do better than that online, but you can't beat the Bookstore's price. Amazon will sell you the same four items separately for a total of \$364.10. Amazon will send a bundle equivalent to the Bookstore package for \$226.31, still over \$40 more than the Bookstore.

What about used books? You can find used copies of all of the items in the bundle, though, surprisingly, used price totals will sometimes be higher than the Bookstore's all new bundle price. However, purchasing used materials has one big question mark. While used books still have the same words in them as new books, *there do not exist any legal used copies of MasteringPhysics access codes*. These access codes are nontransferable; Mastering will disable them when used by anyone other than the original purchaser. Access codes which are guaranteed to be usable come from only two sources: (1) an unopened cardboard package (this is in the Bookstore's bundle), or (2) online from Mastering. If you purchase a "used" access code whose package has never been opened, the access code is still legal. If, however, you purchase a used package which *has* been opened before you receive it, it is likely that you have just lost your money and will have to buy *another* access code.

Finally, we caution all students that readings will be assigned at the first lecture, and the first two assignments will be due later in the first week of class. Shipments of books do not have guaranteed delivery dates, and in consequence, each term some students avoiding the Bookstore end up missing out on credit for one or more homework assignments. Don't let this be you.