

# Physics

Monday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, from 9 to 11.30 a.m.

Room 110, Sterling Chemistry Laboratory, 225 Prospect Street

The Physics Department Director of Undergraduate Studies will be on hand to introduce the various lecture and lab courses and to describe the placement process.

In addition, the associate dean for science education and other directors of undergraduate studies will be on hand to answer general questions.

This meeting is open to all, but will be of particular interest to prospective science and engineering majors.

The Physics Department will also participate in the Academic Fair on Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>.

The placement of entering students in the four Introductory Physics sequences (Phys. 260a/261b, 200a/201b, 180a/181b, and 150a/151b) is determined on the basis of **both** the physics **and** mathematics preparation of the students. Phys. 260a/261b has Math 230 as a co-requisite; Phys. 200a expects Math 120a or its equivalent as a pre- or co-requisite; Phys. 180a expects Math 115a or its equivalent as a pre- or co-requisite. Physics 150a/151b is a “non-calculus” introductory sequence, but Math 112a and 115b should be taken concurrently.

Last week, on the basis of your grades in your secondary school courses and various standardized exams, I sent an e-mail out to all freshman with some previous exposure to physics suggesting to each of you where you seemed best suited (on the basis of your Math and Physics background) to get into our introductory sequences.

During the next few days, during the “Shopping Period” you should also feel free to make use of a certain amount of Self-Placement among these introductory physics sequences. If there are specific questions, students should always feel free to consult the DUS ([peter.parker@yale.edu](mailto:peter.parker@yale.edu)) or the faculty member in charge of a specific introductory course.

*One point that should be emphasized is that all 4 of the introductory sequences are scheduled in the same time slot (MWF 11:30 - 12:20) so that a student who finds that he or she is not appropriately placed can easily transfer to a lower sequence without any complications within the first 4 to 6 weeks of the semester.*

Introductory Laboratories: The standard introductory laboratory for Phys. 150a/151b and Phys. 180a/181b is Phys. 165La/166Lb. The advanced physics laboratory (Phys. 205L/206L) is offered both semesters, so that Phys 205L can be taken as either Phys. 205La or Phys. 205Lb, etc

For students taking the Phys. 200a/201b sequence, it is *strongly* recommended that the laboratory course be taken beginning in the spring semester as Phys. 205Lb and then finished in the following fall as Phys. 206La. Students in the Phys. 260a/261b sequence are also expected to typically enroll in this lab sequence as Phys. 205Lb/206La. Registration for laboratory sections is handled during the first week of classes (Sept. 5-7) by logging onto [classesv2.yale.edu](http://classesv2.yale.edu).