RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE

PHYS 101 – GENERAL PHYSICS I

I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: PHYS 101 – General Physics I

B. New or Modified Course: Modified

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Fall Year: 2020

D. Effective Term: Fall 2020

E. Sponsoring Department: Science & Engineering

F. Semester Credit Hours: 4

G. Weekly Contact Hours: 6 Lecture: 3

Laboratory: 3

Out of class student work per week: 7.5

H. Prerequisites: Two years of college preparatory laboratory science or the equivalent, and MATH 113 - Precalculus II or MATH 114H - Precalculus Honors

I. Laboratory Fees: Yes

J. Name and Telephone Number or E-Mail Address of Department Chair and Divisional Dean at time of approval:

Department Chair: Marianne Baricevic <u>marianne.baricevic@raritanval.edu</u> Divisional Dean: Sarah Imbriglio <u>sarah.imbriglio@raritanval.edu</u>

II. Catalog Description

Prerequisites: Two years of college preparatory science or the equivalent, and MATH 113 - Precalculus II or MATH 114H - Precalculus Honors. This is the first semester of a two-semester sequence in introductory algebra-based physics, which is required for students majoring in many of the sciences and a variety of other disciplines. Topics include: Measurement and estimation, kinematics and dynamics of particles and rigid bodies, Newton's Laws, work, energy and momentum, rotational motion, gravitation, equilibrium and elasticity, fluids, temperature and heat, kinetic theory, and the laws of thermodynamics.

III. Statement of Course Need

- **A.** This is a standard course in any algebra-based physics course sequence.
- **B.** This course requires a lab component for students to employ a scientific approach to understanding of the physics principles and concepts, and obtain first-hand experience in observation, data collection, analysis, and research.
- C. This course generally transfers as a program requirement, general education course in science with lab, and/or free elective.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

- A. Free Elective.
- B. This course serves as a General Education course in Science with Lab.
- C. This course meets a program requirement for: General Science/Pre-Health Professional. This course may also be used as part of a required physics or science sequence for the following programs: Chemistry, Computer Science, Environmental Science, Information Systems & Technology, Mathematics, and Pre-Medicine and Pre-Pharmacy AS.
- D. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

V. Outline of Course Content

This course explores the following topics:

- A. Measurement and error analysis
- B. One dimensional motion
- C. Vectors
- D. Two dimensional motion
- E. Newton's Laws
- F. Circular motion
- G. Gravitation
- H. Work and energy
- I. Center of mass
- J. Momentum
- K. Rotational motion

- L. Static equilibrium and elasticity
- M. Fluids
- N. Temperature and heat
- O. Kinetic theory
- P. The laws of thermodynamics

VI. General Education and Course Learning Outcomes

A. General Education Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1. Classify and interpret information (GE-NJ 2, 3).
- 2. Analyze and solve appropriate physics problems (GE-NJ 2, 3, *).
- 3. Apply basic laboratory techniques to relevant physics experiments and report on their results (GE-NJ 1, 2, 4, *).
- 4. Discover information through research and report on their analyses of research information (GE-NJ 1, 3, 4).

(* embedded critical thinking)

B. Course Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1. Collect and interpret data accurately.
- 2. Apply theoretical strategies to the analysis of data.
- 3. Conceive reasonable inferences in response to observations.
- 4. Analyze and solve physics problems systematically and logically.
- 5. Apply mathematical techniques and use appropriate computing tools to obtain quantitative solutions to problems in physics and other disciplines.
- 6. Synthesize information for the purposes of discussion and written work.

C. Assessment Instruments

- 1. Laboratory experimentation
- 2. Problem solving individually and in peer dialogue
- 3. Analysis of reading assignments
- 4. Research projects
- 5. Other, as specified by instructor

VII. Grade Determinants

- A. Discussion questions
- B. Homework problems
- C. Exams and quizzes
- D. Research and/or collaborative projects

- E. Oral presentations
- F. Laboratory reports
- G. Class participation and preparation

The primary formats, modes, and methods for teaching and learning that may be used in the course:

- A. Lecture/discussion
- B. Laboratory
- C. Small group projects
- D. Student oral presentations
- E. Computer instruction and simulations
- F. Independent study

VIII. Texts and Materials

- A. Textbooks
- B. Primary sources
- C. Journals and publications
- D. Web sources
- E. Databases
- F. Audio/visual sources

Samples of specific texts which may be featured:

- Cutnell/Johnson, *Physics*, Wiley Publishers, (Most Recent Edition).
- Wilson/Hernandez, *Physics Laboratory Experiments*, Houghton-Mifflin Publishers, (Most Recent Edition).

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

IX. Resources

- A. Laboratory
- B. Computers
- C. Library

X. Honors Options: None