



University of
Connecticut



SHELTON HIGH SCHOOL
UCONN PHYSICS 1201Q & 1202Q Introduction

YEAR
2023 - 2024

INSTRUCTOR
MR. GODDARD

Dear Student & Parent/Guardian:

I will be your child's University of Connecticut (UCONN) Physics Science teacher for the 2023-2024 school year and thus I would like to briefly introduce myself. My name is Mr. James Goddard, 30+ year veteran teacher of Physics, Chemistry, and Physical Science. I spent the majority of my high school teaching career in Ohio & Michigan, preparing students to enter college. I graduated Michigan State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Science education, majoring in Biology, Physics and minoring in Chemistry. In 1999, I completed my Master's Degree in Education from the University of Toledo. I have been very active with the school and its programs and encourage my students to become active as well. I coached tennis, wrestling, and directed ski clubs for 15 years. I love teaching science to high school students, as they are open to the exciting world of science. This is an impressionable age for many students, and I feel a tremendous responsibility to help them become successful, as science is a gateway to many fabulous careers and professions; something we will discuss throughout the year.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, compliments and/or concerns. The easiest way to reach me is via e-mail, jgoddard@sheltonpublicschools.org. I will do my best to update you on class activities and your child's progress.

This course will cover curricula as outlined by the University of Connecticut for both General Physics 1201Q and 1202Q. Calculus is not a prerequisite, nor taking it concurrent is required, as this course is a non-calculus class; however, advanced mathematic skills and concepts will be used throughout the course. It will be beneficial if the student already has taken and succeeded in Pre-Calculus, or Trigonometry/Algebra II.

Students will be required to take the final exams provided by UCONN in late January and June. Students can earn up to 8 credits (4 per semester) from UCONN by earning a C (not a C-) or better for the course in each semester.

- **Note:**

You may receive two different grades for this course. The UCONN course grade will be calculated differently than the Shelton course grade. The Shelton grade (the grade that will go on your report card) will be determined the same as any other high school course (20% each quarter and 10% for each exam). But the UCONN grade will be determined differently (per UCONN policy). This will be determined as 75% for all work during the semester and 25% for the final semester exam. This also means that if you are enrolled in

the UCONN course, you cannot be exempt from either semester exam. It will be this grade, and not the Shelton grade, that will be sent to UCONN and appear on any UCONN transcripts.

- I encourage all students to register with UCONN even if they have no current plans for attending. UCONN credit is transferable to many colleges and universities. Also, students do sometimes change their mind and indeed attend UCONN.
- Lastly, any student who plans to enter a science or engineering program of study should realize that passing this course will NOT absolve them from taking Physics in college. This subject is too important, and each college or university will require these program candidates to take as much physics as possible. However, the experience that students gain by taking this course is immeasurable.

I will be using various video links, and internet resources to help students learn about various content material. This does not replace the mandatory reading, but will enhance the reading assignment(s) to help them more fully understand concepts. Websites such as these below I will use and can be previewed at any time. I may even have students help create a few videos as teaching tools for class. I will never post any video on the internet or onto our classroom website without proper authorization. The websites below constitute a small sample of resources for students.

- <http://www.goddardphysicsaviation.weebly.com>
- <http://www.flippingphysics.com/algebra.html>
- <http://www.watchknowlearn.org/Category.aspx?CategoryID=188>
- <http://www.kahnacademy.org>
- <http://www.physicsclassroom.com>
- Plus others ☺

I look forward to a wonderful, exciting year, as well as all students receiving college credit to jumpstart their post-secondary education. Please keep this sheet, and return the other signed acknowledging a parent/guardian has received this information. Parents should keep one copy and students will return the other to receive their first homework grade. Students will be returned their copy for their own records once I have recorded this in our gradebook.

Sincerely,

James Goddard

Mr. James Goddard
jgoddard@sheltonpublicschools.org

UCONN ECE Physics 1201Q & 1202Q Adjunct Professor
SHS Physics Instructor
SHS Aviation Instructor