Physics Department Warwick University

Meeting of the Student Staff Liaison Committee on Tuesday 25th October 2022

First year matters

- Can more support be offered to those without Further Maths?
 - Maths and the module PX153 are the most strongly supported elements we have in the first year. The differing training in maths, that students come with, is one of the principal reasons for this. We recommend that you ask your graduate student tutor, and your personal tutor for help (this is what they are there for!). In addition, further support is offered to those with a relatively poor performance on the Maths Diagnostic Test.
- PX155: can the typed notes be released earlier each week? We will pass this request to the lecturer.
- PX160/PX161: some students reported difficulty logging into MasteringPhysics, despite having successfully registered previously.

There are a couple of browser settings that can interfere with the operation of MasteringPhysics. Pop-ups must not be blocked and you need to have cookies enabled from certain websites associated with the MasteringPhysics provider. There is more information at:

https://support.pearson.com/getsupport/s/article/Configure-Security-to-Allow-Pearson-Websites-and-Content?p=recommended-browser-settings/recommended-browser-settings

Second year matters

- PX275: the scans of the handwritten notes made in blue ink are hard to read. We will pass this information to the lecturer. Issues like this are usually best raised directly in a lecture, so that they can be resolved more quickly.
- PX267: low resolution scans exacerbate handwriting which can be difficult to read. We will pass this comment on to the lecturer.
- PX262: Handwriting can be difficult to read. We will pass this comment on to the lecturer.
- Can we have a mock paper for old modules but on which there is a new lecturer? No, we only provide mock papers for new modules or modules where the syllabus has changed significantly.

Third year matters

- PX366: there is a lot of content.
 This is slightly surprising to us as this module has not changed for a few years. We will pass this message on to the lecturer.
- PX3A3: the Moodle page has several broken links, and the number and timings of the assessments are unclear.

We will pass this on to the lecturer. Again, please raise issues like this directly with the lecturer. Usually, they can be fixed immediately. According to the Moodle page, there are: *Three online assessments (total 15% module weight) with deadlines of 5pm on: Monday week 5, Friday week 6, Friday week 9.*

Fourth year matters

- PX408: handwriting is small, which can make subscripts difficult to discern. We will pass this message on to the lecturer.
- PX446 (magnetism): it can be difficult to take notes, as much material is presented on slides, and the material written on the chalkboard does not record well.

 The material on the board should be visible from all seats in the lecture room. The lecture room in question is often praised as being one of the best around on campus.

Mathematics matters

• MA243: lectures all clash with PX lectures.

The MA243 lectures were moved shortly before the start of term and this information was not relayed to us. We will do our best to avoid this happening again.

You should note that the Maths department regularly allows clashes, even between its own modules, particularly in years 3 and 4. They offer more than can fit into the timetable and they aim to avoid clashes between lectures normally taken together by large numbers of students. MA243 has never attracted significant numbers of Maths/Physics students (<8% of the class in 2021/2).