Physics 289 & WebCT

Instructions for taking Quizzes and accessing WebCT

Physics 289 uses the WebCT system to administer quizzes and for posting your grades. On WebCT you will take quizzes covering material presented in the textbooks as well as in lecture. We begin with a description of these quizzes.

Quizzes: These are short quizzes that are administered in conjunction with the reading assignments and lectures. The purpose of this quiz is to make sure that you have completed the reading assignments and understand the concepts presented in lecture. You must obtain a perfect score on each quiz in order to proceed to the next quiz. There will be an unlimited number of attempts allowed on each quiz.

Getting started with WebCT

- To use WebCT you will need a NEO account. Instructions for activating your NEO account can be found by going to the URL: http://elearning.tamu.edu/help/logon_instructions.php. These instructions are available both as a webpage and as a PDF for download.

Step 1

- Go to http://elearning.tamu.edu and log into WebCT Tamu Login (which will appear on the center of your browser window). You will be prompted for you username and password. These are the same as your NEO account.

Provisional Step (This is only if you browser requires updates)
A check of your browser will occur automatically when you attempt to login.
If you receive an error message, use the following instructions to fix.

- Before going any further, be aware that WebCT is using Vista version 3.0, this means that you may have to update your version of "Java" and go through the "Tune up your browser with Vista." To access these different links, go to http://elearning.tamu.edu and go to the **Current Students** link at the top of the webpage. A drop down menu will appear and you will click on the **WebCT Vista Resources** link. This will take you to a page with four different links, click on **Getting started with WebCT Vista.** Finally, click on the link **Upgrade Java Virtual Machine.** Then follow the instructions to make sure your browser is compatible with WebCT.

Step 2

- Once you are registered with WebCT and upgraded your browser, you can begin submitting homework from any campus computer with Internet access.

If you are attempting to access WebCT off campus and experience troubles

For off-campus computers you must either have a TAMUnet modem connection or have a VPN (Virtual Private Network) client running (e.g. if you have a cable modem or DSL connection). For more information about VPN and TAMUnet, please refer to the CIS support staff: (979) 845-8300

Step 3

- Once you have successfully entered both your username and password and entered WebCT, you will be taken to a "Courses" page. Click on the link **Physics 289** to access your Homepage. From there you click on **Quizzes** to access your Quiz, etc.

Checking your grades with WebCT: You can check your quiz and other grades by choosing the "My Grades" option on the WebCT Physics 289 tool bar on the top of the homepage. If your scores are not available, contact your TA and/or instructor.

NEED HELP? :

You can receive help through contacting **webct@tamu.edu**. This should be your first option in considering getting assistance with WebCT related problems

If you are having trouble with WebCT there are WebCT training sessions listed on http://elearning.tamu.edu at the beginning of the semester. If you are having trouble getting into WebCT, need technical assistance (registration/lost passwords etc.), or believe there is a WebCT problem please contact WebCT directly by filling the request assistance form at **http://elearning.tamu.edu** and clicking on the **Fill Out the Online Help Form** link on the lower portion of your screen under **Need Help?**

There is also physics department WebCT Frequently Asked Questions page at http://faculty.physics.tamu.edu/toback/WebCT/FAQ.html .

If you have any questions regarding the physics or math content, or don't understand the homework grading system, you can email Prof. David Toback (**toback@physics.tamu.edu**). Please only use this option if all other resources have been exhausted. He will ask you if you have tried the *request assistance* option first. There is extra credit for students who find bugs in the system.

This document can be found at (http://faculty.physics.tamu.edu/toback/WebCT)
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