

PHYS 121H: Introductory Physics I Honors — Fall 2025

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Class: MWF 9-9:50 AM in ILSB 230 | Discussion: Tu 1-2:50 PM in ILSB 230

Welcome to Introductory Physics I! This course is the first semester of the calculus-based introductory physics courses and will focus primarily on classical mechanics with topics including particle kinematics and dynamics, Newton's laws of motion and gravitation, rotational motion and dynamics, collisions, momentum, energy and conservation laws. The Table of Contents below will help direct you to any section in the syllabus that you might be interested in, however it is your responsibility to read over the syllabus to familiarize yourself with course policies. Please let me know if you have any questions and I look forward to working with you this semester!

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What Are the Course Prerequisites?

Completion of MATH 151(H) with "C" or better OR concurrent enrollment in MATH 151(H). Algebra, geometry, trigonometry, & calculus will be used extensively throughout the course.

Where is the Class, Discussion, and Exam Schedule

Achieve Pre-lecture/Bridge Questions Due 8 AM (Supplemental Source Tipler Textbook Chapters)

Achieve Homework (HW) due at 11:59 PM Written HW (WH) due 9 AM

Achieve Units for Discussions

Exams (Fridays at 8 AM)

Week (Dates)	Monday	Discussion (MTuW)	Wednesday	Friday
1: Aug 25-29	**Blackboard Syllabus Quiz Due Wednesday Aug 27th 8 AM**	No Discussion	Unit 0: Intro to Achieve Unit 1: 1-D Kinematics Unit 1 Part I HW (due Thursday)	Unit 1: 1-D Kinematics Unit 1 Part II HW (due Sunday)
2: Sept 1-5	Labor Day — No Class Unit 1 Part III HW (due Tuesday)	Unit 1	Unit 2: Vectors & 2-D Kinematics Unit 2 Part I HW (due Thursday) WH 1	Unit 2: Vectors & 2-D Kinematics Unit 2 HW Part II (due Sunday)
3: Sept 8-12	Unit 3: Relative and Circular Motion Unit 3 HW Part I (due Thursday)	Units 2 & 3	Unit 4: Newton's Laws Unit 3 HW Part II (due Thursday) WH 2	Exam 1: Units 1-3
4: Sept 15-19	Unit 5: Forces & Free-Body Diagrams Unit 4 HW (due Tuesday)	Units 4 & 5	Unit 5: Forces & Free-Body Diagrams Unit 5 Part I HW (due Thursday)	Unit 6: Friction Unit 5 Part II HW (due Sunday)
5: Sept 22-26	Unit 6: Friction Unit 6 HW Part I (due Tuesday)	Units 5 & 6	Unit 7: Pressure & Buoyancy Unit 6 HW Part II (due Thursday) WH 3	Unit 7: Pressure & Buoyancy Unit 7 HW Part I (due Sunday)
6: Sept 29 - Oct 3	Unit 8: Work and Kinetic Energy Unit 7 HW Part II (due Tuesday) WH 4	Units 7 & 8	Unit 9: Conservative Forces and Potential Energy	Exam 2: Units 4-7
7: Oct 6-10	Unit 9: Conservative Forces and Potential Energy Unit 8 HW (due Tuesday)	Unit 9	Unit 10: Work and Potential Energy Part II Unit 9 HW (due Thursday)	Unit 10: Work and Potential Energy Part II Unit 10 HW (due Sunday)
8: Oct 13-17	Unit 11: Center of Mass WH 5	Units 10 & 11	Unit 12: Conservation of Momentum	Exam 3: 8-10

9: Oct 20-24	Unit 13: Elastic Collisions Unit 11 HW (due Tuesday)	Units 12 & 13	Unit 13: Elastic Collisions Unit 12 HW (due Thursday)	Unit 14: Collisions, Impulse, and Reference Frames Unit 13 HW (due Sunday)
10: Oct 27-31	Unit 15: Rotational Kinematics & Moment of Inertia Unit 14 HW (due Tuesday) WH 6	Units 14 & 15	Unit 16: Parallel Axis Theorem and Torque	Exam 4: Units 11-14
11: Nov 3-7	Unit 17: Rotational Dynamics Unit 15 HW (due Tuesday)	Units 16 & 17	Unit 17: Rotational Dynamics Unit 16 HW (due Thursday)	Unit 17: Rotational Dynamics Unit 17 HW Part I (due Sunday)
12: Nov 10-14	Unit 18: Rotational Statics Unit 17 HW Part II (due Tuesday)	Units 17 & 18	Unit 19: Rotational Statics Part II WH 7	Exam 5: 15-17
13: Nov 17-21	Unit 19: Rotational Statics Part II Unit 18 HW (due Tuesday)	Unit 19	Unit 20: Angular Momentum Unit 19 HW (due Thursday)	Unit 20: Angular Momentum Unit 20 HW (due Sunday)
14: Nov 24-28	Unit 21: Simple Harmonic Motion WH 8	Unit 20	Class Recess — Thanksgiving	Class Recess — American Indian Heritage Day
15: Dec 1-5	Unit 21: Simple Harmonic Motion Unit 21 HW (due Tuesday)	Unit 21	Unit 22: Simple and Physical Pendula	Exam 6: 18-20
16: Dec 8-12	Unit 22: Simple and Physics Pendula Unit 22 HW (due Tuesday)	Unit 22	Study Day	
	Final Exam Friday Dec 12 8-10 AM: Units 1-22			

This is the schedule as of the beginning of the semester which is tentative and may be adjusted throughout the semester as needed by the instructor. See the schedule on the Achieve calendar for the most update version and announcements on BB for changes to the schedule.

What are the Course Resources and Extra Help?

[Physics Tutorial Center](#): located in the Physics Building room 226A. Open 12-5 PM MTuWTh on a walk-in basis for any student in the intro physics courses — no appointment needed! This is where Dr. G and TAs will hold their office hours. Feel free to go anytime it's open, not just when Dr. G or the TAs are there.

[Dr. G](#) — MW 2:10-3 PM; F 10:30-11:20 AM; also feel free to stop by my office (Physics 323) anytime. If I'm there and have time, I'll be happy to help.

TA — [Claire Gist](#) — see BB for office hours times.

[Supplemental Instruction Peer-Assisted Study Sessions](#) (SIPASS): a proactive academic assistance program that provides opportunities via group review sessions and collaborative learning, for students who want to learn course material more efficiently, improve their grades, and increase academic performance. See Blackboard for times and location.

[Discord](#): allows for a continuous chat between students, TAs/LAs, and instructor. Enter your full name (as listed on the official class roster) and student ID in the approval chat to gain access to the rest of the server. Your nickname must be the same as that listed on the official class roster.

[Academic Success Center](#): provides centralized support to all undergraduate students at UMBC.

What Are the Required Materials and Technologies?

- **CMI**: This course participates in **Course Materials Initiative (CMI)** which is a program developed to provide students with reduced pricing for course materials through digital textbooks and ancillaries. You are automatically enrolled in CMI when you register for the course. CMI provides access to Achieve and a digital copy of the Tipler textbook. If you choose to opt-out of CMI, you are still responsible for purchasing access to Achieve.
- **Blackboard**: all course material and links will be available here as well as important reminders and updates. It is your responsibility to check it daily for updates.
- **Achieve**: this is where you'll find the pre-lecture videos, bridge questions, and online homework assignments. Link to access Achieve is available on BB in the "Start Here!" section. Access is included in CMI. If you opt-out of CMI, you must purchase access on your own.
- **Physics for Scientists and Engineers, by Tipler and Mosca, 6th ed., Volume 2**: An electronic version of this textbook is available online when you enroll in this course — see the Blackboard site for details. The textbook provides an additional perspective on the Achieve material as well as worked out examples. For questions about how to obtain and access the online textbook contact the bookstore: textbook@umbc.edu or 410-455-2695.
- **Poll Everywhere**: You will be able to respond to in class questions using the Poll Everywhere app on your smartphone or computer. Please remember to bring your computer/phone to respond questions each day. More info is on BB under the "Start Here!" tab.
- **Technology**: UMBC requires all students to be technologically self-sufficient, which entails having a **reliable personal computer** (preferably a laptop with webcam) and **Internet access**. Since UMBC requires all students to have a computer and Internet access, financial aid may be used to meet this requirement. To learn more, students should contact their

[financial aid counselor](#). In addition, the [Division of Information Technology](#) (DoIT) provides a wealth of resources and support, including tips for getting online and minimum specifications to consider when purchasing a computer.

- [Discord](#): allows for a continuous chat between students, TAs/LAs, and instructor. Enter your full name (as listed on the official class roster) and student ID in the approval chat to gain access to the rest of the server. Your nickname must be the same as that listed on the official class roster.
- **Calculator**: you may use a *non-graphing scientific* calculator during exams. The calculator should be able to perform basic arithmetic, trig functions, exponential, roots, and logarithms. No cell phones or any other mobile device will be permitted during quizzes or exams.

How Will I be Graded?

Type of Assignment	Percentage
Pre-lectures & Bridge Questions	2.5%
In-class Work	5%
Discussion	5%
Homework	12.5%
Exams (6 @ 10% each)	60%
Final Exam	15%
Total	100%

Percent Range	Letter Grade
89.5% or Above	A
79.5% - 89.5%	B
69.5% - 79.5%	C
59.5% - 69.5%	D
59.5% or Below	F

Grades are calculated according to the percentages and cutoffs above. There is **no** extra credit or additional assignments at the end of the semester to help boost your grade. You should care about your grade starting week one and every week afterwards, not just at the semester's end.

If you are struggling in class, it is far easier to fix problems early. Please come see me in office hours or send me an email to arrange a time to meet.

Check your grades regularly on BB, and contact me or your TA with any grading questions ASAP. You have one week from receiving graded material to request a regrade (the entire assignment will be regraded). After a week, the grade earned will be not changed.

There is an opportunity to have your lowest exam score improved! If your final exam score is higher than your lowest exam score, then your lowest exam score will be replaced with the average of the final exam and your lowest exam score. If your lowest exam score is higher than your final exam score, then there is no change in your lowest exam score.

What are the Course Learning Objectives?

This course addresses the [General Education Program](#) (GEP) goals of functional competency in [Scientific and Quantitative Reasoning](#) (listed below) and has been approved to meet the GEP Sciences distribution requirement.

- Understand and use mathematical and scientific methods of inquiry, reasoning, processes, and strategies to investigate and solve problems.
- Organize, interpret, draw inferences, and make predictions about natural or behavioral phenomena using mathematical and scientific models and theories.
- Recognize that mathematical, statistical, and scientific evidence requires evaluation.

The big, overarching course goals you should be able to demonstrate are below:

- Solve 1-dimension and 2-dimension kinematics motion problems
- Apply Newton's laws to solve problems related to motion and force
- Apply energy principle to solve mechanics problems
- Apply conservation of momentum to solve problems related to collision
- Apply Newton's 2nd law for rotation to solve rotational dynamics problems
- Solve problems related to static equilibrium
- Apply conservation of angular momentum to solve problems
- Apply Newton's laws and energy principle to solve problems related to simple harmonic motion

There will also be a detailed list of learning objectives that you should be able to perform for each Achieve unit. You will find these on BB and you should use them as a guide when studying for exams.

How Should I Prepare for Class?

Coming prepared for class each day will be an essential component in your success in this course. Class time will mainly be spent on applying ideas, concepts, and equations from the pre-lecture videos meaning your first exposure to the week's material will not be in class.

You will be introduced to the material through pre-lecture videos and bridge questions on Achieve. Ideally you should do this the day *before* we have class to give your brain time to absorb and process the new content. Bridge questions may be graded either for participation, accuracy, or a combination of both.

It is important to put forth a solid effort on being introduced to and grappling with the material before coming to class. You should be actively watching the videos which means taking notes; pausing and rewinding the videos; working out examples on your own; and writing down questions you have. Do not expect to get much out of class, discussion, or homework if you don't put in a solid effort on the material before class.

The pre-lecture videos and bridge questions will generally be due before class MWF at 8 AM. See the calendar on Achieve for the exact schedule.

What Will I Be Doing During Class?

Class time will mainly focus on developing your *conceptual understanding* from recent Achieve units. This will be accomplished by working through clicker style questions — not introducing concepts

and equations. Don't expect to get much out of class if you haven't put in a solid effort on watching the pre-lectures and working through the bridge questions before coming to class.

Poll Everywhere questions will be used to track attendance and promote active learning by providing instant feedback for both myself and for you. These questions will mainly be graded on participation. I'll let you know if one is graded on accuracy. You can response to these questions on your phone so remember to bring it to class. No computers during class and only have your phone out when responding to the questions.

Blank (before class) and annotated (after class) slides will be posted on BB. Print off a blank copy to bring to class or bring them up on your tablet to annotate. Do not waste time coping down every thing on the slides as you can look over the annotated slides after class when they are posted. Focus on trying your best to apply what you learned from the pre-class material to the problems we work through during class.

If you miss any classes, you are still responsible for the material covered.

What Kind of Homework Will I Have?

The main way to learn physics is by doing physics, AKA working through homework problems. There will be both handwritten and electronic homework.

Electronic Homework: associated with each of the Achieve units and are usually due SuTuTh at 11:59 PM. 10 attempts per question and you'll need to be correct to within 1% of the correct answer. Keep plenty of significant figures (at least four) for your answers as answers to early parts of a problem may be used later in the problem and rounding errors can cause you to miss a question even though your physics approach is correct. Even though it is electronic, keep a detailed record of your solutions that you can use to review and study from.

Handwritten Homework: due at the beginning of class. It will consist of longer problems. There will be a rubric used to grade these questions (similar to the rubric used on exams). Homework assignments can be found on Blackboard one week before they are due.

Homework Strategies: Before starting the homework, you should make sure you are able to solve and correctly think through the examples covered in the videos, class, and discussion. When you get stuck on a homework problem refer back to the covered material to find similar examples and take advantage of office hours or the discord server.

I strongly discourage you from seeking out homework answers online. No doubt you can find answers, but you are doing yourself a *major disservice*. Learning physics is a process that takes time, dedication, and hard work. Though finding answers online is attempting, you are short circuiting the learning process and having someone else do all the hard work for you which will not set yourself up for success on the exams.

Even though homework constitutes 12.5% of your overall grade, exams — for which you are *solely* responsible — make up the majority at 75%. Don't expect to do well unless you have put in

serious effort on the learning the material. You are encouraged to work together, however, it is your responsibility to fully understand the material.

What is Discussion?

Discussions are weekly meetings (Tuesdays 1-2:50 PM in ILSB 230) where you work on a packet of problems in small groups. Discussion will focus on developing your *problem-solving skills* from the recent Achieve units. It's designed to provide you with a supportive, collaborative learning environment so you can help and learn from each other.

Each discussion grade will be based on a combination of contribution to group effort; quality of written responses; and complete and correct solution to a selected item. Attendance at the discussion is mandatory and full attendance is required. If you arrive more than 5 minutes late to discussion, you lose 10% of your discussion grade with an additional 10% penalty for each 5 minute increment you are late.

You are allowed to use your calculator and equation sheet. All other materials (computers, phones, etc.) are not allowed and must be put away. Direct copying from another student is not allowed and will earn you a zero.

What Will the Exams Be Like?

If you want to do well in this course, then you will have to do well on the exams which constitutes 75% of your overall grade. The pre-lectures, bridge questions, classes, discussions, and homework are meant to help you acquire the conceptual and problem-solving skills you will need to do well. It is important to both attend class and discussion as they will focus on different things. Class focuses on conceptual understanding while discussion is for problem-solving skills.

Six exams on Fridays starting at 8 AM (note the Friday 8-9 AM time slot will only be used for weeks with exams). See the [schedule](#) for the exact dates and exam content. Each exam will consist of a mix of multiple-choice questions and free response questions. For free response questions, you must show all work, calculations, and reasoning to receive full credit. Your work must start with fundamental equations from the equation sheets in variable form. The majority of points for free response questions can be earned based on your work and reasoning. Thus it is more important to understand the conceptual and problem-solving skills needed to arrive at the final answer than to know the final answer itself. A rubric similar to that used for the written homework assignments will be used to grade the free response questions for exams.

Previous semesters exams will be available for practice, but these exams should not be your sole source for exam preparation. Content changes from semester to semester and so exam questions will be different from semester to semester. Exam questions can come from any of the material associated with the course: Achieve (pre-lectures; bridge; homework), class material, discussion material, Blackboard practice questions, old exams, etc.

You are allowed to use a *non-scientific* calculator for exams. No cell phones, computers, or other communication devices allowed. Standards for academic integrity will be strictly enforced.

Final Exam: Friday Dec 12 8-10 AM ([final exam schedule](#)). It will be comprehensive covering units 1-22.

What is the Make Up Policy?

- In-class Work: the three lowest grades (most classes will be poll everywhere questions) are dropped at the end of the semester. These count towards ALL absences and malfunctions.
- Achieve Pre-lecture, Bridge and Electronic Homework: no extensions or make ups for pre-lectures, bridge, or homework. However, at the end of the semester you only need to earn 80% of possible points for your total grade to earn full credit (Examples: You earn 84% of total possible HW points? That becomes 100%. You earn 71% of total possible HW points? That becomes $(71/80)*100\% = 89\%$.)
- Handwritten Homework: no late submissions or extensions allowed.
- Discussion: there is no make-up discussion. The lowest discussion score will be dropped at the end of the semester. If you must miss a discussion for legitimate reasons*, contact the instructor as soon as possible to make an alternative arrangement.
- Exams: Make-ups should only occur in rare circumstances and will only be allowed for legitimate reasons*. You must contact me before the actual exam regarding arrangements for a possible make-up. Failure to do so could result in a zero for that exam.
- Final exam: There is NO make up for the final exam. An alternate time for the final exam might be allowed in cases where another class's final exam conflicts with our final exam (you will be required to provide documentation showing this). It is your responsibility to find out when your final exams will occur and e-mail me well in advance of the week of finals if you discover a conflict with another class.

*Legitimate reasons are defined as officially-sanctioned UMBC activities, illness, family emergency, detention by authorities, or another insurmountable difficulty. I'll request written verification for the cause of your absence.

What is the Instructor's Email Policy?

E-mail is not a good way of addressing physics related questions and I will **not** answer such questions by e-mail. It's not that I don't want to help you out on questions related to the content (in fact it's one of the best parts of my job!), it's just that trying to answer physics questions through email is terribly inefficient. Much better avenues are during my office hours, on the Discord server, during discussion, with TAs during their office hours, at a SI/PASS session, with tutors at the Academic Success Center, or with fellow students.

Email is — however — a great way for non-physics questions such as questions about your grades. Please include your full name, course number, and use your UMBC email address to ensure a prompt response.

What is the Academic Integrity Policy?

All instances of academic misconduct will be addressed according to the UMBC Policy on [Academic Integrity](#). Examples include attempting to make use of disallowed materials on assignments, attempting to communicate with anyone other than the instructor or TA during exams, soliciting help by posting material on the internet for any assignment, looking at posted material from others online, altering graded work and submitting it for regrading, asking someone else to take an assignment in your place, copying another's work on an assignment, asking someone else to do an assignment and representing it as your own, permitting or assisting another student to carry out any of the above, and any other instance of academic misconduct. Penalties range from a grade of 0 on the assignment to an F in the course (at my discretion), and from denotation of academic misconduct on the transcript to expulsion (as determined by official hearing of the Academic Conduct Committee).

What is the Student Disability Services (SDS) Policy?

Accommodations for students with disabilities are provided for all students with a qualified disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA & ADAAA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who request and are eligible for accommodations. The Office of Student Disability Services (SDS) is the UMBC department designated to coordinate accommodations that would create equal access for students when barriers to participation exist in University courses, programs, or activities.

If you have a documented disability and need to request academic accommodations in your courses, please refer to the SDS website at sds.umbc.edu for registration information and office procedures (disAbility@umbc.edu and (410) 455-2459).

If you want to use your SDS approved accommodations in this class, please must contact me to discuss implementation of the accommodations. Your accommodations are not automatically applied. You must also register to take each exam at SDS at least two business days before the exam date. Failure to do so could result in not being allowed extra time accommodations on your exams.

University Guidelines and Policies

Accessibility and Disability Accommodations, Guidance and Resources

Accommodations for students with disabilities are provided for all students with a qualified disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA & ADAAA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who request and are eligible for accommodations. The Office of Student Disability Services (SDS) is the UMBC department designated to coordinate accommodations that creates equal access for students when barriers to participation exist in University courses, programs, or activities.

If you have a documented disability and need to request academic accommodations in your courses, please refer to the SDS website at sds.umbc.edu for registration information and office procedures.

SDS email: disAbility@umbc.edu

SDS phone: [410-455-2459](tel:410-455-2459)

If you will be using SDS approved accommodations in this class, please contact the instructor to discuss implementation of the accommodations. During remote instruction requirements due to COVID, communication and flexibility will be essential for success.

Sexual Assault, Sexual Harassment, and Gender Based Violence and Discrimination

[UMBC Policy](#) in addition to federal and state law (to include Title IX) prohibits discrimination and harassment on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity in University programs and activities. Any student who is impacted by sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, sexual exploitation, gender discrimination, pregnancy discrimination, gender-based harassment, or related retaliation should contact the University's Title IX Coordinator to make a report and/or access support and resources. The Title IX Coordinator can be reached at titleixcoordinator@umbc.edu or 410-455-1717.

You can access support and resources even if you do not want to take any further action. You will not be forced to file a formal complaint or police report. Please be aware that the University may take action on its own if essential to protect the safety of the community.

If you are interested in making a report, please use the [Online Reporting/Referral Form](#). Please note that, if you report anonymously, the University's ability to respond will be limited.

Notice that Faculty and Teaching Assistants are Responsible Employees with Mandatory Reporting Obligations

All faculty members and teaching assistants are considered Responsible Employees, per UMBC's [Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Sexual Harassment, and Gender Discrimination](#). Faculty and teaching assistants therefore required to report all known information regarding alleged conduct that may be a violation of the Policy to the Title IX Coordinator, even if a student discloses an experience that occurred before attending UMBC and/or an incident that only involves people not affiliated with UMBC. Reports are required regardless of the amount of detail provided and even in instances where support has already been offered or received.

While faculty members want to encourage you to share information related to your life experiences through discussion and written work, students should understand that faculty are required to report past and present sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic and dating violence, stalking, and gender discrimination that is shared with them to the Title IX Coordinator so that the University can inform students of their [rights, resources, and support](#). While you are encouraged to do so, you are not obligated to respond to outreach conducted as a result of a report to the Title IX Coordinator.

If you need to speak with someone in confidence, who does not have an obligation to report to the Title IX Coordinator, UMBC has a number of [Confidential Resources](#) available to support you:

[Retriever Integrated Health](#) (Main Campus): 410-455-2472; Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.; For After-Hours Support, Call 988.

[Center for Counseling and Well-Being](#) (Shady Grove Campus): 301-738-6273; Monday-Thursday 10:00a.m. – 7:00 p.m. and Friday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (virtual) [Online Appointment Request Form](#)

Pastoral Counseling via [The Gathering Space for Spiritual Well-Being](#): 410-455-6795; i3b@umbc.edu; Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Other Resources

[Women's Center](#) (open to students of all genders): [410-455-2714](tel:410-455-2714); womenscenter@umbc.edu; Monday – Thursday 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Friday 10:00 a.m. – 4 p.m.

[Shady Grove Student Resources](#), [Maryland Resources](#), [National Resources](#).

Child Abuse and Neglect

Please note that Maryland law and [UMBC policy](#) require that faculty report all disclosures or suspicions of child abuse or neglect to the Department of Social Services and/or the police even if the person who experienced the abuse or neglect is now over 18.

Pregnant and Parenting Students

UMBC's [Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Sexual Harassment and Gender Discrimination](#) expressly prohibits all forms of discrimination and harassment on the basis of sex, including pregnancy. Resources for pregnant, parenting and breastfeeding students are available through the University's [Office of Equity and Civil Rights](#). Pregnant and parenting students are encouraged to contact the Title IX Coordinator to discuss plans and ensure ongoing access to their academic program with respect to a leave of absence – returning following leave, or any other accommodation that may be needed related to pregnancy, childbirth, adoption, breastfeeding, and/or the early months of parenting.

In addition, students who are pregnant and have an impairment related to their pregnancy that qualifies as disability under the ADA may be entitled to accommodations through the [Office of Student Disability Services](#).

Religious Observances & Accommodations

UMBC [Policy](#) provides that students should not be penalized because of observances of their religious beliefs, and that students shall be given an opportunity, whenever feasible, to make up within a reasonable time any academic assignment that is missed due to individual participation in religious observances. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor of any intended absences or requested modifications for religious observances in advance, and as early as possible. For questions or guidance regarding religious observances and accommodations, please contact the Office of Equity and Civil Rights at ecr@umbc.edu.

Hate, Bias, Discrimination and Harassment

UMBC values safety, cultural and ethnic diversity, social responsibility, lifelong learning, equity, and civic engagement.

Consistent with these principles, [UMBC Policy](#) prohibits discrimination and harassment in its educational programs and activities or with respect to employment terms and conditions based on race, creed, color, religion, sex, gender, pregnancy, ancestry, age, gender identity or expression, national origin, veterans status, marital status, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, or genetic information.

Students (and faculty and staff) who experience discrimination, harassment, hate, or bias based upon a protected status or who have such matters reported to them should use the [online reporting/referral form](#) to report discrimination, hate, or bias incidents. You may report incidents that happen to you anonymously. Please note that, if you report anonymously, the University's ability to respond may be limited.