

Textbook for PHY232

A number of students have had trouble getting the assigned text, Serway and Faughn, College Physics, 5th edition. Here is what I have found out about the situation:

1. This particular text was chosen because many of you already have it from 231 last semester which used the same book.
2. Since then Saunders, the publisher has come out with the 6th edition.
3. The 6th edition of Volume 1 (mechanics) is available but Vol 2 (the one you need) won't be available until October (which probably means November or later, knowing publishers).
4. The book stores presumed that nearly all students in 232 would already have the textbook (see #1 above) and so didn't order any (or only few) copies. These seem to have run out, though see below (the book stores clearly exist principally to make a profit and secondarily to serve students' interests and copies of the obsolete 5th edition left on their shelves are undesirable, Ed.).

So what now? Here are some possibilities:

1. I have put 5 copies of the book on reserve in the library off the atrium of the BPS building.
2. As of 3pm on Friday the bookstores have a number of copies, viz: MSU bookstore (2 used), Student Book Store (4 copies), Ned's bookstore (3 copies), College bookstore (0 copies) and these numbers change depending on returns and sales. Make sure you specify that you need 5th edition, complete or Vol 2 and call ahead so you don't waste a lot of time.
3. Wait for 6th edition Vol 2 which will be just fine though be careful to do the right reading assignment...in case chapter numbering etc. has changed.
4. A different textbook which is introductory Algebra based Physics course (e.g. Cutnell and Johnson, Giancoli, or Hecht) will also do fine...they all cover the same material. Again, just make sure you read the right chapter and don't just rely on the chapter numbering on the course Schedule.
5. Anyone who needs a copy of the book, please contact me as soon as possible. If I give an accurate number of how many people want the book to the MSU bookstore on campus, they will try to get them in, but they anticipate that it may be a problem.

Remember: You need access to a textbook and you must do the reading or you won't do well in this course. There is much too much material to cover in class alone and homework/quiz/exam questions will appear on material not covered in class. (Note: If a section is listed as "Optional" in the book, it will be tested only if we covered that material in class).