



Conducting Labs for Non-science Majors

- **Preparing for the lab**

1. Know the course material – You should go through the theoretical part of the lab before reaching the lab. Go well prepared!!!
2. Do the experiments yourself – Try to do the experiment yourself at least 2 days prior to the lab to make sure everything is behaving itself.
3. Know the apparatus – As a TA you are expected to know the experimental setup and all the apparatus well, you may be asked any type of question about the apparatus.

- **Telling Your Expectations about**

1. Policies – State your policies clearly in the first class itself so that students can't complain at a later stage.
2. Writing Lab Reports – Tell your students, what you expect in the lab report and if possible distribute some handout or put all the information on U Of Del website.
3. How students will be doing the lab - If possible inform students about how are you planning to conduct the labs, will they be doing the lab in groups or individually.

- **How to conduct Labs?**

1. Paying attention to Your Attitude: Make sure you are using your body language. Move around the classroom. Try to make eye contact with everybody. Show them that you are friendly and Smile :).
2. Describing the Experiment: Depending on the experiment, you may give a little information about the theory part of it. Explain what they are going to be doing precisely. Demonstrate it once yourself. Before they start the experiment, tell the students about precautions related to the experiment. Summarize by talking about its use for the course.
3. Being involved: Wander around the tables while students are doing the experiment. See if they are doing it correctly. Help them if they need any help.
4. Show that you are there to help
5. Summarize the material by repeating what was learnt that day.