Dear Current Students of Dr. Sean P. McBride -

You are encouraged and welcome to participate in what I call **'HERD Hours'**, this is a place where students can come individually, or especially in groups, and work on homework together in a non-classroom and non-typical-professor-office-hour setting. Simply come by **'HERD Hours'** and ask some questions. The time and location will vary from semester to semester, but an attempt will be made such that at least four hours of time per week will be set aside for **'HERD Hours'**. You will be informed of the location and times at the start of the semester. For Fall 2019, **'HERD Hours'** will be from 1-5 pm in Room 179 in the Science Building every Friday.

At **'HERD Hours'**, I will always be around to help you at any time if you get stuck, but what I really want to see at **'HERD Hours'** is students helping fellow students, leading each other through peer instruction. Struggling, discussing, conquering the problems, and celebrating with your friends and peers is better than being frustrated by yourself and not making progress on the homework. I encourage you all to work together. When working in groups often results in getting the homework done faster with a better understanding of the material and is overall a more memorable experience than spending long frustrated isolated hours struggling on your own. Attendance will be taken during **'HERD Hours'** for recording keeping purposes only, not for extra credit.

For your homework (both online and written), always try it yourself first; however, you are encouraged (but not required) to discuss it with your peers for help (**'HERD Hours'** provides a great place to accomplish this feat). I encourage students to discuss homework with each other if you arrive at different answers. Use the chalkboard. If you think the answer you got is correct and you are confident in your solution, try and explain it to your fellow students, see what they think. Work it out on the board. Maybe they solved the problem a different way, arriving at a different answer, encouraging you to review and rethink how you solved the problem. Hopefully this encourages discussion of physics among you and your fellow students and builds your confidence in problem solving and improves your ability to explain your work to others. If you cannot get the required help from your peers, or simply have a question, come see me during office hours, drop by anytime, or make an appointment with me, and/or apply for a tutor. Remember, the number of your peers (N) can vary each semester for your class (N = 20 - 60+) and significantly outnumber the number of the professors for your course (N = 1) and they may be more available than your professor to help you outside of normal office hours and **'HERD Hours'**.

If office hours, or **'HERD Hours'**, is not something you think you will benefit from, there are free university tutors available for almost all intro level physics classes. See current tutoring schedule available at: [http://www.marshall.edu/uc/tutoring-services/](http://www.marshall.edu/uc/tutoring-services/). If you seek an individual tutor, stop by the Communications Building, Room 211 and submit a "Request a Tutor" form (available at: [http://www.marshall.edu/uc/tutoring-services/](http://www.marshall.edu/uc/tutoring-services/)). If you have not heard from the tutoring office staff within one week of submitting your form, please call 304-696-6622 or email tutoring@marshall.edu. I also provide a list of "Dr. SPM Approved Tutors" on my Teaching Homepage that I will vouch for. Additionally, the Physics Majors offer free tutoring in room 281 M 6-9 pm, W 6-9 pm, and F 3-6 pm for fall 2019. As you can see there are many avenues and options for help. More information about the department is posted on the Physics Homepage: [https://www.marshall.edu/physics/](https://www.marshall.edu/physics/).

Hope to see you at **'HERD Hours'"!!

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