

# Unit 03: Circular Motion and Gravitation (3 Weeks)

Content Area: **Template**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Full Year**  
Length: **FY**  
Status: **Published**

## Standards Alignment

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### New Jersey Student Learning Standards

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#### Practice 1. Asking questions (for science) and defining problems (for engineering)

**Asking questions and defining problems in 9–12 builds on K–8 experiences and progresses to formulating, refining, and evaluating empirically testable questions and design problems using models and simulations.**

Ask questions that arise from careful observation of phenomena, or unexpected results, to clarify and/or seek additional information.

Ask questions that arise from examining models or a theory, to clarify and/or seek additional information and relationships.

Ask questions to determine relationships, including quantitative relationships, between independent and dependent variables.

Ask questions that can be investigated within the scope of the school laboratory, research facilities, or field (e.g., outdoor environment) with available resources and, when appropriate, frame a hypothesis based on a model or theory.

#### Practice 2. Developing and using models

**Modeling in 9–12 builds on K–8 experiences and progresses to using, synthesizing, and developing models to predict and show relationships among variables between systems and their components in the natural and designed worlds.**

Evaluate merits and limitations of two different models of the same proposed tool, process, mechanism or system in order to select or revise a model that best fits the evidence or design criteria.

Develop, revise, and/or use a model based on evidence to illustrate and/or predict the relationships between systems or between components of a system.

Develop a complex model that allows for manipulation and testing of a proposed process or system.

Develop and/or use a model (including mathematical and computational) to generate data to support explanations, predict phenomena, analyze systems, and/or solve problems.

#### Practice 3. Planning and carrying out investigations

**Planning and carrying out investigations in 9-12 builds on K-8 experiences and progresses to include investigations that provide evidence for and test conceptual, mathematical, physical, and empirical models.**

Plan and conduct an investigation individually and collaboratively to produce data to serve as the basis for evidence, and in the design: decide on types, how much, and accuracy of data needed to produce reliable measurements and consider limitations on the precision of the data (e.g., number of trials, cost, risk, time), and refine the design accordingly.

Select appropriate tools to collect, record, analyze, and evaluate data.

Make directional hypotheses that specify what happens to a dependent variable when an independent variable is manipulated.

#### **Practice 4. Analyzing and interpreting data**

**Analyzing data in 9–12 builds on K–8 experiences and progresses to introducing more detailed statistical analysis, the comparison of data sets for consistency, and the use of models to generate and analyze data.**

Analyze data using tools, technologies, and/or models (e.g., computational, mathematical) in order to make valid and reliable scientific claims or determine an optimal design solution.

Apply concepts of statistics and probability (including determining function fits to data, slope, intercept, and correlation coefficient for linear fits) to scientific and engineering questions and problems, using digital tools when feasible.

Consider limitations of data analysis (e.g., measurement error, sample selection) when analyzing and interpreting data.

#### **Practice 5. Using mathematics and computational thinking**

**Mathematical and computational thinking in 9-12 builds on K-8 experiences and progresses to using algebraic thinking and analysis, a range of linear and nonlinear functions including trigonometric functions, exponentials and logarithms, and computational tools for statistical analysis to analyze, represent, and model data. Simple computational simulations are created and used based on mathematical models of basic assumptions.**

Use mathematical, computational, and/or algorithmic representations of phenomena or design solutions to describe and/or support claims and/or explanations.

Apply techniques of algebra and functions to represent and solve scientific and engineering problems.

Apply ratios, rates, percentages, and unit conversions in the context of complicated measurement problems involving quantities with derived or compound units (such as mg/mL, kg/m<sup>3</sup>, acre-feet, etc.).

#### **Practice 6. Constructing explanations (for science) and designing solutions (for engineering)**

**Constructing explanations and designing solutions in 9–12 builds on K–8 experiences and progresses to explanations and designs that are supported by multiple and independent student-generated sources of evidence consistent with scientific ideas, principles, and theories.**

Make a quantitative and/or qualitative claim regarding the relationship between dependent and independent variables.

Construct and revise an explanation based on valid and reliable evidence obtained from a variety of sources (including students' own investigations, models, theories, simulations, peer review) and the assumption that theories and laws that describe the natural world operate today as they did in the past and will continue to do so in the future.

#### **Practice 7. Engaging in argument from evidence**

**Engaging in argument from evidence in 9–12 builds on K–8 experiences and progresses to using appropriate and sufficient evidence and scientific reasoning to defend and critique claims and explanations about the natural and designed world(s). Arguments may also come from current scientific or historical episodes in science.**

Respectfully provide and/or receive critiques on scientific arguments by probing reasoning and evidence, challenging ideas and conclusions, responding thoughtfully to diverse perspectives, and determining additional information required to resolve contradictions.

Construct, use, and/or present an oral and written argument or counter-arguments based on data and evidence.

#### **Crosscutting Statements**

**1. Patterns – Observed patterns in nature guide organization and classification and prompt questions about relationships and causes underlying them.**

Mathematical representations are needed to identify some patterns.

**3. Scale, Proportion, and Quantity – In considering phenomena, it is critical to recognize what is relevant at different size, time, and energy scales, and to recognize proportional relationships between different quantities as scales change.**

Algebraic thinking is used to examine scientific data and predict the effect of a change in one variable on another (e.g., linear growth vs. exponential growth).

## **Connections to the Nature of Science: Most Closely Associated with Crosscutting Concepts Scientific Knowledge Assumes an Order and Consistency in Natural Systems**

Science assumes the universe is a vast single system in which basic laws are consistent.

### **ESS1: Earth's Place in the Universe ESS1.B: Earth and the Solar System**

Kepler's laws describe common features of the motions of orbiting objects, including their elliptical paths around the sun. Orbits may change due to the gravitational effects from, or collisions with, other objects in the solar system. (HS-ESS1-4)

### **PS2: Motion and Stability: Forces and Interactions PS2.B: Types of Interactions**

Newton's law of universal gravitation and Coulomb's law provide the mathematical models to describe and predict the effects of gravitational and electrostatic forces between distant objects. (HS-PS2-4)

Forces at a distance are explained by fields (gravitational, electric, and magnetic) permeating space that can transfer energy through space. Magnets or electric currents cause magnetic fields; electric charges or changing magnetic fields cause electric fields. (HS-PS2-4), (HS-PS2-5)

SCI.3-PS2	Motion and Stability: Forces and Interactions
SCI.3.PS2.B	Types of Interactions
SCI.HS-PS2	Motion and Stability: Forces and Interactions
SCI.HS-PS2-4	Use mathematical representations of Newton's Law of Gravitation and Coulomb's Law to describe and predict the gravitational and electrostatic forces between objects.
SCI.HS-ESS1	Earth's Place in the Universe
SCI.HS-ESS1-4	Use mathematical or computational representations to predict the motion of orbiting objects in the solar system.
1-ESS1	Earth's Place in the Universe
1-ESS1-2.ESS1.B	Earth and the Solar System

## **Integration of Career Readiness, Life Literacies and Key Skills**

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CRP.K-12.CRP1	Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP3	Attend to personal health and financial well-being.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP5	Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
CRP.K-12.CRP6	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
CRP.K-12.CRP7	Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
CRP.K-12.CRP8	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
CRP.K-12.CRP9	Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.
CRP.K-12.CRP10	Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals.
CRP.K-12.CRP11	Use technology to enhance productivity.
CRP.K-12.CRP12	Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.

## Technology / Integration of Computer Science and Design Thinking

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TECH.8.2.12	Technology Education, Engineering, Design, and Computational Thinking - Programming: All students will develop an understanding of the nature and impact of technology, engineering, technological design, computational thinking and the designed world as they relate to the individual, global society, and the environment.
TECH.8.2.12.A	The Nature of Technology: Creativity and Innovation: Technology systems impact every aspect of the world in which we live.
TECH.8.2.12.A.2	Analyze a current technology and the resources used, to identify the trade-offs in terms of availability, cost, desirability and waste.
TECH.8.2.12.B	Technology and Society: Knowledge and understanding of human, cultural and society values are fundamental when designing technology systems and products in the global society.
TECH.8.2.12.B.4	Investigate a technology used in a given period of history, e.g., stone age, industrial revolution or information age, and identify their impact and how they may have changed to meet human needs and wants.
TECH.8.2.12.C	Design: The design process is a systematic approach to solving problems.
TECH.8.2.12.C.2	Analyze a product and how it has changed or might change over time to meet human needs and wants.
TECH.8.2.12.E	Computational Thinking: Programming: Computational thinking builds and enhances problem solving, allowing students to move beyond using knowledge to creating knowledge.
TECH.8.2.12.E.1	Demonstrate an understanding of the problem-solving capacity of computers in our world.

## Interdisciplinary Connections: NJSLs for ELA, Social Studies, Science and/or Math Section

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	Key Ideas and Details
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R1	Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences and relevant connections from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
	Integration of Knowledge and Ideas
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R7	Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.
LA.RI.11-12.1	Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, (e.g., via discussion, written response, etc.), to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferentially, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.
	Writing
	Text Types and Purposes
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W1	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective

technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

#### Production and Distribution of Writing

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W4

Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W5

Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.

LA.RI.11-12.7

Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem.

#### Text Types and Purposes

LA.W.11-12.1

Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

LA.W.11-12.2

Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

LA.W.11-12.3

Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

LA.W.11-12.4

Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)

LA.W.11-12.5

Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, trying a new approach, or consulting a style manual (such as MLA or APA Style), focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

## **Integration of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Climate Change; Informational and Media LiteracyNew Section**

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see Crosswalks

## **21st Century Life and Careers**

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### **Stage I: Desired Results**

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### **Transfer/Overview/Rationale**

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#### **Transfer / Overview / Rationale**

Unit Rationale

The purpose of this unit...

Uniform Circular motion is the simplest form of curved motion and is another application of Newton's second law of motion. Its properties can be applied to the motion of massive objects in a gravitational field.

## Meaning

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## Essential Questions

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Essential Questions

- What forces maintain circular motion for the variety of rides at an amusement park?
- How big does something have to be for us to experience the gravitational forces it produces?
- Why isn't an astronaut every truly weightless?

## Enduring Understanding/Indicators of Understanding

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Enduring Understanding/Indicators of Understanding

Students will understand that:

- Forces that maintain circular motion act radially to the object's path.
- Every object with mass exerts a gravitational force on every other object with mass.
- The gravitational force decreases with distance according to an inverse-square law.

## Acquisition (Student Learning Objectives)

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## Knowledge

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Knowledge

Students will know...

- The difference between a rotation and a revolution.
- For an object to move in a circle there must be Acceleration and Force acting on the object.
- An object moving in a circular path is accelerating because its direction is changing.
- Newton's 2nd Law still holds true for centripetal force and centripetal acceleration.
- The relationship between the frequency, period, and force of an object moving in a circular motion.
- "Centrifugal Force" is an apparent force, not a true force.
- The effects of centripetal force in a rotating system can simulate gravity.
- All objects with mass are attracted to each other.
- Things in orbit are actually in freefall.
- Law of Universal Gravitation
- Gravitational force between two objects decreases with distance according to an inverse square law.
- The importance gravitational forces have in shaping the universe.
- The four fundamental forces

## Skills

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### Skills

Student will be skilled at ...

- The student is able to design a plan for collecting data to measure gravitational mass and to measure inertial mass and to distinguish between the two experiments.
- The student is able to apply  $F=mg$  to calculate the gravitational force on an object with mass  $m$  in a gravitational field of strength  $g$  in the context of the effects of a net force on objects and systems.
- The student is able to apply  $g=GM/r^2$  to calculate the gravitational field due to an object with mass  $M$ , where the field is a vector directed toward the center of the object of mass  $M$ .
- The student is able to approximate a numerical value of the gravitational field ( $g$ ) near the surface of an object from its radius and mass relative to those of the Earth or other reference objects.
- The student is able to represent forces in diagrams or mathematically using appropriately labeled vectors with magnitude, direction, and units during the analysis of a situation.
- The student is able to analyze a scenario and make claims (develop arguments, justify assertions) about the forces exerted on an object by other objects for different types of forces or components of forces.
- The student is able to describe a force as an interaction between two objects and identify both objects for any force.
- The student is able to construct explanations of physical situations involving the interaction of bodies using Newton's third law and the representation of action-reaction pairs of forces.
- The student is able to use Newton's third law to make claims and predictions about the action-reaction pairs of forces when two objects interact.
- The student is able to analyze situations involving interactions among several objects by using free-body diagrams that include the application of Newton's third law to identify forces.
- The student is able to design a plan to collect and analyze data for motion (static, constant, or accelerating) from force measurements and carry out an analysis to determine the relationship between the net force and the vector sum of the individual forces.
- The student is able to reexpress a free-body diagram representation into a mathematical representation and solve the mathematical representation for the acceleration of the object.
- The student is able to create and use free-body diagrams to analyze physical situations to solve problems with motion qualitatively and quantitatively.
- The student is able to use Newton's law of gravitation to calculate the gravitational force the two objects exert on each other and use that force in contexts other than orbital motion.
- The student is able to use Newton's law of gravitation to calculate the gravitational force between two objects and use that force in contexts involving orbital motion.

- The student is able to connect the concepts of gravitational force and electric force to compare similarities and differences between the forces. [SP 7.2]
- The student is able to articulate situations when the gravitational force is the dominant force and when the electromagnetic, weak, and strong forces can be ignored.
- The student is able to evaluate using given data whether all the forces on a system or whether all the parts of a system have been identified.

## Stage 3: Learning Plan

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### Resource and Mentor Texts

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#### Resources and Mentor Texts

- Douglas Ingram & David Anderson. OpenStax College Physics for AP® Course 1. 1st ed. OpenStax.
- Knight, Jones, Field College Physics a strategic approach AP Edition 3rd ed Pearson
- Giancoli, D.C. Physics: Principles with Applications. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Pearson Education.
- New Jersey Center for Teaching and Learning AP Physics 1 Course
- Hieggelke, Curtis, David Maloney, and Stephen Kanim. Newtonian Tasks Inspired by Physics Education Research: nTIPERs. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson, 2012
- PhET Interactive Simulations <https://phet.colorado.edu/en/simulations/category/physics>

### Formative Assessment Strategies

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#### Formative Assessment Strategies

- Hand Signals - students use hand signals to indicate their understanding
- One-Minute Essay
- Misconception Check - students are presented with a common misconception about a concept and then asked to agree or disagree and explain why.
- Student Conference - one on one conversation with students to check for understanding
- Observation - observe students as they work to check for learning
- Exit Card - written student responses to questions posed at the end of a class or learning activity.
- Quiz
- Choral Response - students respond verbally at the same time in response to a question

- Debriefing - students reflect on their work immediately following an activity

## **Learning Activities/Unit of Study**

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### Learning Activities/Unit of Study

- **One Minute Essay:** students summarize material from the previous class or homework assignment in 3 to 5 sentences.
- **Review/Check Homework**
- **Lecture**
- **Thumbs up/down/sideways** - quick formative assessment to gauge students level of understanding
- **Problem solving in small groups**
- **Guided inquiry laboratory assignments** - results are presented via digital poster
- **Open inquiry laboratory assignments** - results are presented via digital poster
- **Round Robin Labs** - multiple stations with different labs, each group is responsible for performing and presenting for one of the labs.
- **Newtonian Tasks Inspired by Physics Education Research (nTIPERs) such as:**
  - **Bar Chart Tasks**
  - **Changing Representations Tasks**
  - **Comparison Tasks**
  - **Conflicting Contentions Tasks**
  - **Linked Multiple Choice Tasks**
  - **Qualitative Reasoning Tasks**
  - **Ranking Tasks**
  - **Troubleshooting Tasks**
  - **What, if anything, is Wrong Tasks**
  - **Working Backwards Tasks**
- **PhET Interactive simulations using chromebooks**
- **YouTube videos from "Flipping Physics"**
- **Review and practice skills using a variety of materials** - (text, workbook, chromebook, games, activities, discussion)
- **Practice AP style multiple choice and free response questions**

## **Modifications and/or Accommodations**

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### **Suggested Modifications (ELL, Sp. Ed, Gifted, At-risk of Failure)**

### **English Language Learners**

Native language support: The teacher provides auditory or written content to students in their native language.

Adjusted Speech: The teacher changes speech patterns to increase student comprehension. This could include facing the students, paraphrasing, clearly indicating the most important ideas, and speaking more slowly.

Visuals: The teacher uses graphics, pictures, visuals, and manipulatives. This helps ELL students better understand and comprehend the subjects at hand.

Front-Loading Vocabulary: The teacher front loads vocabulary. This means providing students with a list of important vocabulary words they will need to know for a book, lesson, etc. prior to the lesson being taught. Including pictures to go with the vocabulary words is also very beneficial for the students.

## Special Education Students

Chunking: The teacher presents information in a way that makes it easy for students to understand and remember. Chunking is based on the presumption that our working memory is easily overloaded by excessive detail. The best way to deliver information is to organize it into meaningful units. Because students with special needs get overloaded easily, chunking is an effective strategy to use with them.

Checking for Understanding: It is important to constantly check for understanding, especially for students who have accommodations. Teachers want to make sure students understand the concepts being covered in a way that makes sense to them.

Extra time: The teacher provides students with special needs extra time to complete work or answer questions. It is important to give students enough time to process their thoughts.

Oral Reading: The teacher will read work orally to students. Class work such as tests and literature circles may need to be read aloud to the student.

Timers: The teacher will use timers as an instructional tool. The use of timers is beneficial for students who have trouble completing tasks. Timers can be helpful so the student is aware of how much time they have to complete an assignment.

## Students with 504 Plans

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## Gifted & Talented Strategies

Extensions/Enrichments: Teachers will provide gifted and talented students with extension/enrichment projects. Students will be challenged to further their understanding, to apply acquired knowledge, and/or to produce something in reference to acquired knowledge.

Modify/Change Activities: Teachers will monitor and modify activities to accommodate those students who need to be challenged further. Additional reading, problem-solving, writing, or project work is necessary for those students who are ready to move on at a rate more accelerated than their peers. In this way, G & T students are provided the same opportunity for support as special needs students.

## Students at Risk of School Failure

Directions or Instructions: Make sure directions and/or instructions are given in limited numbers. Give directions/instructions verbally and in simple written format. Ask students to repeat the instructions or directions to ensure understanding occurs. Check back with the student to ensure he/she hasn't forgotten.

Peer Support: Peers can help build confidence in other students by assisting in peer learning. Many teachers use the 'ask 3 before me' approach. This is fine, however, a student at risk may have to have a specific student or two to ask. Set this up for the student so he/she knows who to ask for clarification before going to you.

Alternate or Modified Assignments: Always ask yourself, "How can I modify this assignment to ensure the students at risk are able to complete it?" Sometimes you'll simplify the task, reduce the length of the assignment or allow for a different mode of delivery. For instance, many students may hand something in, the at-risk student may jot notes and give you the information verbally. Or, it just may be that you will need to assign an alternate assignment.

Increase One to One Time: When other students are working, always touch base with your students at risk and find out if they're on track or needing some additional support. A few minutes here and there will go a long way to intervene as the need presents itself.

Contracts: It helps to have a working contract between you and your students at risk. This helps prioritize the tasks that need to be done and ensure completion happens. Each day write down what needs to be completed, as the tasks are done, provide a checkmark or happy face. The goal of using contracts is to eventually have the student come to you for completion sign-offs.

Hands On: As much as possible, think in concrete terms and provide hands-on tasks. This means a child doing math may require a calculator or counters. The child may need to tape record comprehension activities instead of writing them. A child may have to listen to a story being read instead of reading it him/herself.

Tests/Assessments: Tests can be done orally if need be. Break tests down in smaller increments by having a portion of the test in the morning, another portion after lunch and the final part the next

day.

Seating: Seat students near a helping peer or with quick access to the teacher. Those with hearing or sight issues need to be close to the instruction which often means near the front.