

Laser Safety Lab Hazard Awareness Information

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Provides information to lab workers/visitors who are NOT authorized laser users about hazards existing at this location.

Location Knudsen 1238, 2115, 2122, 2136

LASERS

- Lasers may only be operated in these labs by **personnel who have received permission to use them** from a suitably qualified class trainer.
- In order to maintain and protect equipment, personnel, and research, no worker, except for trained personnel, can touch move or interfere with any laser equipment, materials or processes.
- Personnel should never use class-supplied laser pointers as presentation pointers in the classroom.
- Personnel should **never introduce a shiny or mirrored surface** in front of laser beam that might cause uncontrolled specular reflection.
- Classroom laser personnel should **not move or adjust laser equipment** set up by any other class laser operator unless specifically instructed to do so. This includes not detaching the lasers from any stands or moving the stands in any way that could create a hazard for other classroom occupants.
- Laser equipment should be **turned on only when necessary** for presenting the demonstration.
- Laser equipment, whether powered by an external power supply or batteries, should be **turned off following completion of a given classroom demonstration** so as to prevent inadvertent exposure during class dismissal.

EYE HAZARDS

- This lab uses and operates lasers that create light radiation which, if of sufficient power, can cause biological damage to the eyes. Eye damage caused from lasers includes **retinal burns**, **glaucoma**, **cataracts and total loss of vision**.
- Personnel should **never stare into a laser or look directly into a beam** and never stand or sit at the same level as the beam path.
- Laser operators must make sure that any laser beam points away from other members of the class.
- The person primarily responsible for the class training can order all personnel to leave the room if necessary for any reason