Experiment 12: Interference, Diffraction & Polarization

Student Name: _____

Section Number: _____

PRELAB

PRE-LAB Instructions:

Print out this page. Feel free to refer to the lab Instructions and other materials, your physics textbook, other students, etc. to help you to ponder, understand, and work out answers to the following question(s). Show your work & answers in the space(s) provided.

PRE-LAB Questions

1) Which end of a first order spectrum, produced by a diffraction grating, will be nearest the central maximum? Explain.

2) What is the difference between an interference pattern and a diffraction pattern?

3) At a sale of polarized sunglasses, there is a half price special on a batch of glasses whose lenses have a *horizontal* polarization direction. Would you buy them? Explain your answer.