# LAB 17: OHM'S LAW

AIM: To determine the resistance of an unknown resistor.

# **APPARATUS & MATERIALS:**

rheostat (variable resistor) ammeter

switch

connecting wires

unknown resistor



### Diagram: Circuit diagram for identifying the resistance of an unknown resistor

### METHOD:

- Set up the circuit as shown in the circuit diagram above with the rheostat at the maximum and the switch open.
- Have the circuit check by the teacher.
- Close the switch.
- Record the values for voltage, *V* and current, *I*, when the ammeter is at the highest reading.
- Vary the rheostat and record *five (5)* other readings for *V* and *I*. (Open the switch between readings)

# THEORY:

- State Ohm's Law and the formula associated with it. State units of resistance.
- How must the ammeter be connected in the circuit.
- How must the voltmeter be connected in the circuit.

## **RESULTS:**

• Record all results in table below (showing all headings and units)

Voltage (V)	Current (I)
/ (V)	/ (A)

• Plot a graph of voltage, V, against current, I.

# CALCULATIONS:

• Calculate the gradient the graph to determine the resistance of the unknown resistor.

# CONCLUSION:

• State the resistance of an unknown resistor