September x, 2025

From: Dr Evangelista
To: S&E AP Physics C Electricity & Magnetism Students
Subj: COURSE GUIDELINES (NOT FOR ISSUE - RUTGERS PHASE 1 VERSION)

1. **Course description and instructor intent:** We will be covering content to prepare you for the Advanced Placement Physics C Electricity & Magnetism test, which is the equivalent of a second college course in physics for which you may receive college credit, depending on your score and your college's policies. This is a multivariate calculus-based introduction to electricity and magnetism. We will move quickly and I will require you to work hard and think deeply about the material. I expect that you are genuinely interested in the material and are not simply taking the class to get "AP" on a transcript. My intent is that you do well on the test, but the overriding concern is that you learn physics and are equipped to thrive (not just survive) in introductory college STEM courses. As an S&E alum, I hope to provide you with the same sort of preparation I had. Be interested, engage, and run with the material.My expectations for you are high because I believe you can meet them.

2. The course meets 5th period in G201. Arrive on time and ready to participate. For S&E seniors, we will modify the standard block schedule in conjunction with multivariate calculus, to do physics MWF and allow a contiguous block of time TR for senior projects and internships.

3. **Textbook etc:** The required text is Tipler, which will be provided electronically (5th edition). Hard copies are also available. We may also make available supplemental texts, including Barrons; and I anticipate having some other common university-level physics texts available for students seeking additional material. Students must have an approved scientific calculator (a spare is recommended) and writing materials. Students are required to join Google Classroom for course materials and handouts.

4. **Grading:** Grading will be based on the following approximate weights:
    a. 50% major assessments (exams)
    b. 40% labs and quizzes
    c. 10% in class work, homework, etc. More information on homework will be provided; I tend to give credit on HW for the struggle, anticipating that your hard work here will be reflected in higher quiz and exam grades.

5. **AP Classroom:** The AP test is now computer based. To prepare you for this I will require you to register on AP Classroom and complete some assignments and quizzes online. More information will be provided including a classroom code.

6. **Collaboration:** Science is collaborative. Except during exams, I encourage collaboration among students, and your classmates can be one of the most powerful aids to helping

you learn. Each student is individually responsible for learning the material themselves, and academic integrity demands that we identify who our collaborators are and what our contributions were. More information will be provided, but generally while I welcome you working together I will expect you to submit your work individually. I may also specify that certain tasks (writing) must be done individually in order to force all students to develop their individual skills. You may be working labs in groups; as in past S&E Physics classes, lab groups will be shuffled each marking period. You may need to resolve differences of opinion, iron out schedule issues, handle when your partners are absent or miss something; clear communication is encouraged as your practice collaboration.

7. **Academic integrity:** I expect you to be persons of integrity. When evaluating your strengths and weaknesses with the material, I need to know that your work is your own, does not use non-permitted sources, devices, or aids (including people, internet, AI), and gives credit when referencing the thoughts and work of others. There can be major life consequences for dishonesty, cheating, plagiarism, etc. including zeroes, failing grades, dismissal, loss of reputation and loss of further opportunities. For this class we will act within FRHSD procedures and policies regarding academic integrity. Remember, your learning and an honest score is much more important than a zero grade (first offense) and the loss of my trust in your academic integrity; repeat offenses risk disciplinary action.

8. Work should be legible, neat, and show your thinking clearly. Drawings and diagrams are encouraged. Answers magically pulled out of the air with no work or thinking shown may receive no credit. Work must also be submitted on time; in past S&E Physics classes work that was one (1) day late received 50% credit; two (2) days late received zero. Obviously, accommodations will be made for extenuating circumstances (e.g. extreme illness, death in family, etc).

9. I will try to establish the dates for major assessments (exams) as soon as possible (see syllabus). Students with conflicts are highly encouraged to make alternate arrangements with me as soon as practicable. If you have an unforeseen excused absence on the day of an exam, academic integrity requires that you not discuss exam material with anyone. In such cases you will have 2 days upon your return to school to make up the missed exam.

10. **Other classroom expectations:**
    a. Students will conform to FRHSD **cell phone** procedures. Cell phones are generally not permitted during instructional time.
    b. Students are expected to arrive at class on time and be awake, ready to learn, and with the necessary materials.
    c. Students will conform to FRHSD policies and procedures regarding classroom behavior, bathroom procedures, communicable diseases, virtual learning, reasonable accommodations, etc.

d. **In some activities you may have freedom to work independently in class** in solving difficult problems or collecting lab data; you are expected to use “inside voices”, **stay on task**, and to re-assemble as a class when directed to start the next activity.
e. **Food and drink** are not generally permitted in science labs during lab activities; however I will allow water, tea or coffee, cookies during the breaks between physics and projects or multivariate calculus as a compromise to encourage being awake, alert, and able to participate. I may also have candies available to encourage diligent and persistent engagement with advanced level problems. This privilege may be revoked at any time. **“Leave no trace” applies to wrappers etc.**.
f. You are required to comply with all FRHSD **emergency procedures** at all time regarding fire, lockdown, and evacuation.
g. You are required to comply with all FRHSD and Manalapan HS science **laboratory safety** guidelines and any written or verbal instructions regarding safety from me at all times. **Failure to do so will result in removal from lab activities,** which are a required component of the course.
h. G201 has many toys, drones, robots, and demonstration pieces and you are encouraged to touch, engage, and use them to help you learn physics. **It is intended to be a playground for your physics mind**, allow you to see applications first-hand, and also to help you learn how to be a good citizen of lab so you can work in one when you get to college. Take care not to alienate your labmates, teacher, PI, etc by mistreating the lab and the gear. **Please try to leave the condition of G201 better than it was when you arrived.**

11. My schedule in AY2025-2026 is:
    a. Period 1 & 3 (4) - S&E AP Physics C Mechanics, G201
    b. Period 5 - S&E AP Physics C E&M, G201
    c. Period 7 - S&E Engineering Research (Honors), G201
    d. Additional duties - bathroom duty at 2nd floor G Wing, robotics club / FTC. I am available when not in class, and by appointment at times TBA likely lunch and/or afterschool. More information will be provided. **When you need help, you are expected to come see me; your college professors will be available but they will not necessarily come find you or hold your hand at all times and they will expect you to take ownership of your own learning.**

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