

Course Information Guide

Honors Physics

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Course Description

Physics is the study of how the universe works on the most fundamental level. In this class, you will use your powers of observation and logical as well as mathematical reasoning to describe, explain, and predict the behavior of objects.

Course Goals As a result of taking Physics I, you will:

1. Know and understand the process that is used to make the scientific discoveries that are reported in the media or in the workplace
2. Understand the scientific principles that underlie motion, forces, waves, and electricity.
3. Apply your mathematical skills to solving real-world problems
4. Develop problem solving and scientific literacy skills

Required Materials

You are expected to bring the following materials with you to class every day.



Notebook
(I recommend quad-ruled)



School
Laptop



Computer
Charger



Student
Agenda



Reading
Book

Notebook: You should have a writing utensil and a spiral notebook that you bring with you every day. I recommend that it be a quad-ruled (graphing) notebook. We will use the notebook to take notes and work problems.

Laptop and Charger: Please bring your laptop and charger with you to class every day. We will not use it every day or even most days, but there are certain assignment you will be unable to complete without it.

Student Agenda: This is required by school policy. If you need to use the restroom, you must have your agenda. I will write one restroom pass per week.

Reading Book: If there is downtime in class, you may not use your phone. You may, however, read a book.

Methods of Evaluation

Your pre-exam grade will be based on the methods of evaluation shown below. The weighting of each of these categories is subject to change. Your overall class grade will consist of the pre-exam grade (85%) and the final exam grade (15%).

1. Homework (30%)

- Homework plays an important role in helping you understand the material. Therefore, it is important that it gets done in a timely manner!
- At the beginning of each unit, all the problems of the unit will be given to you as a chapter syllabus.
- There will be one HW quiz each unit based upon the problems you were to complete on the syllabus. They are also open-note! Therefore, it is to your advantage to bring to class your homework!
- Homework is accepted for full credit until Test Day. There will be a 50% penalty for homework turned in after test day. Homework will not be accepted any later than the Test for the following unit.

2. Labs/Projects (30%)

- Many labs will have an associated worksheet to turn in or a short summary paragraph to complete via Schoology.
- A few labs will require a fully typed lab write-up to be uploaded to Schoology.
- Late labs will be assessed a penalty of 10% per school day (whether or not class meets) up to 50%. Labs that are more than a month late will not be accepted.
- There will be one research project in the Spring Semester. If you complete your research project late, it is immediately assessed a 50% penalty.

3. Tests (40%)

- Each chapter will end with a quiz or a test.
- Tests may be corrected for half-credit back on missed questions. In order to be eligible for test corrections, you must have no outstanding lab assignments and must have at least an 80% on your homework score for that chapter.

Other Class Policies

Tardies My tardy policy is the same as the school's. You are tardy if you are not in the classroom by the time the bell rings. If you do come in late, please sign the tardy log.

Cell Phones and Earbuds In Honors Physics, there is no instructional need for cell phones or earbuds. They should therefore be put away at all times. Failure to comply will result in the progressive discipline outlined in the AHS Student Handbook.

Absences and Makeup Work I will often post video explanations and recordings for students who are absent on Schoology. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to check Schoology and contact me with any questions.

There are some activities that we do in class which will not need to be made up. Students with *excused* absences will be exempted from these assignments in the grade book. Students with *unexcused* or *unverified* absences will receive a zero, which cannot be made up. This is in line with the policy in the AHS Student Handbook.