

Φλγδφςδ

Course Expectations 2019-2020

Teacher: Mrs. Ciustea
Course: Physics
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Course Description:

Many students (and many adults for that matter) get sweaty palms and possibly a shortness of breath when they think about taking a physics class. This could be because traditional physics was taught using chalkboards full of strange equations and symbols. My philosophy is that you will learn physics better by actually doing physics. Therefore, we will DO as much hands-on physics as possible in this class. That is not to say that we won't have days where we need to take notes, but we will focus on making physics come alive for you!

In this course, we will be talking about the laws that govern the world we live in. Physics is the most basic science and provides the basis for all of the other science. This means that with an understanding of physics, we can understand a lot about how the world works.

Methods of Instruction:

As mentioned before, we will try to make this class as much about active learning as possible. We will also rely on discussions and note taking to make sure that the material is clear and accessible.

Your understanding of physics at the end of this year not only depends on me, as your instructor, but also on you! Our exploration of physics will not be easy as we will be redefining the way that you view your entire environment. Lucky for us, you don't have to learn alone. Look around, you are in a room full of colleagues that you will help and that you can also count on for help. Together, we will come to an understanding of physics and the universe by the end of the school year.

Required Equipment:

- A "PHYSICS!" tab in your 3-ring Notebook *with this expectations guide at the front*
- A good supply of Graph Paper (Fine/small divisions will make your life easier!)
- Loose leaf notebook paper
- 2 Composition notebooks dedicated to physics
- Scientific* Calculator
- Metric Ruler (clear is ideal)
- Protractor (small and clear is ideal)
- Personal tape dispenser (refillable is ideal)
- Multiple colors of ink pens (at least one blue/black)
- Several colors of highlighters
- Pencils AND Erasers
- AT LEAST 1 dry erase marker (bold colors, please)
- USB/Flash Drive
- Signed expectations contract, science safety contract, and photo release form

On _____, we will do a **supply check**. If all of the above items are present, you will receive 5 points. You will lose 1 point for each day you do not have your required materials.

Course Texts:

Inspire Physics- Mc Graw Hill Education

Grading Policies:

Scale:

	A = 100-93.0%	A - = 92.9-90.0%
B+ = 89.9-87.0%	B = 86.9-83.0%	B - = 82.9-80.0%
C+ = 79.9-77.0%	C = 76.9-73.0%	C - = 72.9-70.0%
D+ = 69.9-67.0%	D = 66.9-63.0%	D - = 62.9-60.0%
F = below 60.0%		

Categories:

Unit Tests/Quizzes = 35%	Homework/Other Assignments = 20%
Laboratory Work = 35%	Final Exam = 10%

** Note: I will not round grades! What you see on Family Access IS your grade.*

Course Topics:

First Semester Concepts	Second Semester Concepts
Metric Units and Measurement	Impulse and momentum
One Dimensional Motion	Work and Power
• Speed vs. Velocity	Mechanical Energy
• Acceleration	• Kinetic Energy
Two Dimensional Motion	• Potential Energy
• Vectors	Thermal energy
• Projectile Motion	States of matter
Newton’s Laws	Vibrations and Waves
• Forces	• Properties and Mechanics
Impulse and Momentum	• Sound
Gravitation	Optics - Light and color
Rotational Motion	Electric Current and Circuits
Predicting the motion of orbiting objects in the Solar System	Magnetism
	Electromagnetism

Classroom Expectations:

As an active member of this class, you have several responsibilities:

- **Be prepared** - Come to class on time, prepared, and be ready to work.
- **Be an asset to the class** - I promise not to waste your time and conversely, you should not waste your time in class either. If you’re finished, help your peers or help me.
- **Be engaged** - You are expected be an active, responsible, independent contributor to your physics experience every day (Please, ask questions!)
- **Be respectful** - Respect our learning environment! Listen to and work with your peers and myself respectfully.
- **Be on-task** - Take advantage of class time - No lining up by the door at the end of class, no matter what!
- **Be reliable** - Show respect for the equipment we are able to use. Trash, wrappers, bottles or anything untidy is your responsibility! Put it in the trash/recycle on your way out.

- **Be orderly** - Keep the room (especially lab stations!) in order. Return everything you use where and how it was before.
- **Be safe** - Follow our science safety guidelines in the laboratory and in class at all times.

My general attitude regarding physics: I view this class as a higher-level science with students of a high level of motivation. I expect students to be keen listeners, hard workers, highly resourceful, helpful, and independently motivated. I do not repeat things over and over and *everything* announced verbally is important. You chose to take physics and that's what we'll do in this class ... Physics! You need to trust that in the end, you will leave with an awareness that will undoubtedly add to the fullness of your life. That's why the majority of students enjoy this class!

Note: *Students are responsible for their own behavior in the science lab. Actions that result in the misuse, damage, or breakage of lab supplies will receive disciplinary actions. Students **may be fined** for the cost of the item.*

Attendance Expectations:

Attendance: The attendance policy outlined in your student handbook will be strictly followed. Attendance in this class is absolutely essential to success and continuity. Since much of what we do is group work, absences sometimes affect the whole class.

Punctuality: Tardies are *extremely* disruptive. Class will always begin promptly with important announcements and the warm-ups. You need to be seated and working on the warm-up before scheduled start of class. Anyone arriving after the scheduled start time will be tardy. On your 3rd tardy of the quarter, you will be assigned lunch duty or after school clean-up in our classroom.

Here are some great reasons to make it to class every day:

- We do something important every day of the week for the entire year! Physics builds on itself, so it's important to stay on top of the material.
- The other members of this class and your table and lab groups depend on you! Your absence will affect them.
- There may be no way for you to make up the lab or activity you missed.
- You will miss something fun!
- We will miss you!

Electronics Policy:

Technology is a wonderful thing that we will use extensively in this course. That being said, personal electronics in the classroom are frequently a distraction. Cell phones, MP3 players, and portable gaming devices are not permitted in physics classes. Similarly, calculators can be used in a way that is inappropriate (i.e.-playing games). **If a student is using electronics in an inappropriate fashion, the device will be confiscated.** You may pick it up at the following times:

1st offense = after class; 2nd offense = end of the school day; 3rd offense = from administrator

What To Expect:

Journals: You will need a composition-style lab notebook for physics. We will take notes, work problem sets, do homework and scribble random pictures in here. This is your essential tool to help with your understanding of physics. The neater and more complete you keep your journal, the more useful it will be while doing homework or reviewing (and for random **journal checks**).

Binder: Keep a tab in your three-ring notebook for Physics. This will mainly be for lab reports and assignments that need to be handed in for grading. Please make sure that you keep this organized so it is easy to find labs or assignments when you need them.

Graded Homework on WebAssign: In order to give you immediate feedback on graded homework, we will do summative homework assignments online at www.webassign.net. The cost for the use of this program is \$11 for the full year. You will be responsible for signing up no later than **Monday, September 9**. Please check my website for the registration key for your class period.

Stamps: In order to give you timely feedback on an assignment, some assignments will be stamped for completion before we review it in class. Stamps will be recorded on your properly filled out stamp sheet and will be handed in for a score at each unit exam. Incomplete/late assignments will be initialed for partial credit up to 5 days beyond the due date. Even if you did not receive a stamp, it is important to finish the assignment for the learning value and for the partial point value (and journal checks). I don't give "busy work," all assignments have a purpose!

***Note:** Stamps may be denied to assignments which are judged insufficient, hurried, showing no evidence of problem solving, or just subpar, even if you may believe it is complete.

Lab Write-Ups: Physics is a lab-based science so your lab work will be worth the same percentage as your tests and quizzes! Some lab write-ups will be accompanied by a scoring guide (rubric). Some will be *formal* (to be explained later) and some will be *informal*. "Informal" doesn't mean less important, it only means less time will be spent on "beautifying" the write-up. Some of the most significant concepts we will discover will be in the form of informal labs. Formal labs will give you the practice you need to successfully present official experimental results as you would in college or professional research.

Unless otherwise stated, each lab should be typed and graphs/tables/diagrams must also be computer processed in some way (LoggerPro, Word, Open Office, etc.). We will be learning to use a program called LoggerPro which will be used to process all of our graphical data. **I DO NOT ACCEPT GRAPHS MADE USING EXCEL.** Please Follow the link on my website to install LoggerPro on your home computer or laptop no later than **Monday, September 9**.

ANY ASSIGNMENTS OR LABS THAT ARE HANDED IN MUST BE ON CLEAN PAPER WITH NO RAGGED EDGES. IF IT IS NOT LEGIBLE, I WILL NOT GRADE IT!

Tests and quizzes: You will be able to demonstrate your learning through a variety of assessments: multiple choice questions, situation problems, applications, performance/lab work, analyzing data/graphs, etc. Pop quizzes may be given from time to time as a check for text readings, articles or other outside reading assignments, appropriate note-taking, videos, etc. For tests, you will be given an equation sheet.

Make ups: You are responsible for finding out what you missed when you were absent and keeping track of due dates! If you knew about the test before the absence, expect to take it THE SAME DAY YOU RETURN. If you missed content/review, you will be given an extra day for each missed content day. Unless extenuating circumstances exist, you will have no more than ONE WEEK from your return date to complete any make-up labs or tests.

IF YOU KNOW YOU WILL BE ABSENT, ARRANGE TO DO THE LAB, TEST, QUIZ AHEAD OF TIME AND GET ANY HOMEWORK THAT WILL BE GIVEN DURING YOUR ABSENCE!

Late work: Basic rule of thumb is "1 day excused absence = 24 hour grace period to finish an assignment given during the absence." You are responsible for handing in absent work on the proper day! Unexcused absences or assignments handed in late for other reasons will lose 20% off the total possible score for the first week. The maximum lost credit is 50% at which point it will be graded for completion only. **NO LATE WORK ACCEPTED AFTER THE UNIT TEST!** If I receive an assignment a week after it was due and your excuse is "I was absent!", unless you were gone for a week, the assignment will be considered late. No exceptions. After the unit test, you will receive a smiley face for "effort."

Extra Credit: There will be extra credit opportunities throughout the semester. Please DO NOT ask for extra credit – if you ask, you won't get it! All extra credit will be entered at the END of the semester. **You will only earn your extra credit if you have NO MISSING ASSIGNMENTS!**

Electronic Textbook: We have access to an electronic textbook for additional practice in physics.

Remind: This year, I will offer a free texting service to send our periodic class reminders. This service doesn't allow me to see your phone number and you cannot see mine; it was developed specifically for using by teachers. This is completely optional, but you must sign up for the service using the directions posted on my website no later than **Monday, September 9** if you wish to receive reminders.

Academic Fraud:

Academic fraud (cheating) is *any* attempt made by a student to misrepresent his/her level of achievement by plagiarizing (passing off the work/writing of another person as your own) or aiding another student in such an attempt. It is the ultimate crime in an academic setting.

Under no circumstances is it permissible to transfer to your test, homework, lab write-up, or project something that has been written or stated by someone else in an attempt to earn credit for it. "We worked together" never produces nor justifies identical papers/solutions bearing separate names. Phrases or ideas copied directly from books, articles, web sites, etc., which are claimed to be an original work, would be considered plagiarism. If you are unsure as to whether something would be considered cheating, please ask. You will not be penalized for asking. See your student handbook for consequences of cheating.

Safety

FIRE EXTINGUISHER Location: _____

FIRE BLANKET Location: _____

FIRST AIDE KIT Location: _____

We follow the district science safety standards. You will be given a separate handout detailing safety in our science classroom. One big issue: PLEASE don't touch or even breathe on any equipment in the room until instructed when and how to do so.

As a teacher, I will do all I can to help you gain the greatest understanding of the subject matter, to become an informed and active member of the scientific community, to grow as a student and a person, and to have the most fun you've ever had in a science class. Communicate with me and ask for help when you need it.

Please do your best every day to be an active contributor and to help us all enjoy as much Physics as we can in the time we have together this year. Physics is all about connecting our lives to the entire universe! It's tedious at times, and requires an exceptional amount of focus, but it's fun and rewarding too! Expect to be challenged by this class, and embrace that challenge!

Please detach and return the final page of this course expectation document to Mrs. Ciustea.

To Do by Monday, September 9:

- Sign and return syllabus and photo permission form
- Sign and return science safety expectations
- Sign and return academic honest pledge
- Bring in required materials for materials check
- Complete student profile survey
- Sign-up for WebAssign
- Sign-Up for TurnItIn.com
- (OPTIONAL) Sign-up for reminders through Remind

Student Name (Please Print Neatly): _____

Please initial the following to indicate that you agree with the statement:

_____ **Student** - My contact information (email and phone) is up to date on Student Access

_____ **Parent** - My contact information (email and phone) is up to date on Family Access

I have read and understand the guidelines for Physics class. I will commit to following these guidelines and reviewing them periodically.

(Student Signature)

(Date)

As a parent/guardian of a physics student, I have read and understand the above guidelines. I will provide any support necessary in helping my student follow these guidelines.

(Parent Signature)

(Date)

PERMISSION FORM FOR WORLD WIDE WEB PUBLISHING OF STUDENT PHOTOS/VIDEOS

In order for digital photographs or videos of students at work in our physics classroom to be posted online, both the student and parent/guardian must give permission. Signatures of both parties are mandatory before Mrs. Ciustea will post the photograph on the World Wide Web. The class photos may be posted at

STUDENT SECTION:

Please complete this form to indicate that you agree to have your photo used on the classroom website.

Student Signature: _____

Today's Date: _____

PARENT SECTION:

As the parent/guardian of the above student,

_____ **I grant permission**

_____ **I DO NOT grant permission**

for my child's photograph to be used on the aforementioned classroom website.

Name (please print): _____

Signature: _____

Today's Date: _____ **Preferred Phone #:** _____

Date Received by Mrs. Ciustea: _____