

Pre-AP Physics

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Conference Time by appointment:

After school, 5th and 7th period.

Walk-In tutorials:

Lunch

Course Overview

Classes meet every other day for 90 minutes. This algebra based physics course is designed as a first-year course but it is strongly recommended that students have either taken or are co-enrolled in Algebra 2. During the fall semester, this course focuses on mechanics which is common with a first semester of college physics course. In the spring, the course transitions to the “other” topics (see last page for course outline). All content is intended to be aligned with the SAT II physics subject test so that a student, with the help of an exam prep book, could take the optional exam in June. Taking the subject test, however, is not a requirement of the course and only serves as a guide for the curriculum.

Materials

1. A method to take notes and keep returned tests/quizzes and handouts.
2. Pencils, pens (Black and Red)
3. Graphing calculator (TI-84 preferred)
4. Online Text Book: *Openstax College for AP Courses*

Class Expectations

1. No cruelty.
2. Give yourself and others permission to make mistakes.

Grading System: 6 week reporting period

Exams/Projects/Formal Lab Reports	25%
Labs (Lab Checks)	25%
Group Quizzes	30%
Independent Work (HW Checks, Classwork, Openstax Tutor)	20%

Website

We will be using the class website to access class handouts, notes, answers, the calendar, and recorded lectures. The main site does not require a login, but some pages are password protected to protect material with a copyright or privacy. The password will be provided the first day of school

Grading policy (Same as HSPVA)

- A: 90 – 100%
- B: 80 – 89 %
- C: 75 – 79%
- D: 70 – 74%
- F: Less than 70% (This is a failing grade)

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Parents/Guardians are important role models and an essential part of every student's education. In addition to progress reports and report cards, students will receive a progress report if at any point their grade falls below a 70. Students are required to bring this progress report back to the teacher with a parent or guardian's signature. If you have any questions concerning assignments and or grades, check the account on Gradespeed and then e-mail any concerns. E-mail is the best form of communication.

Retake Policy: Any student is eligible to take a retake. The score on the retake averages with the score of the original test (both up and down). The retake exam is a shortened version of the test intended to be at the same level of difficulty, but with different questions that has a 30 minute time limit as it is to be completed during the designated lunch period. In case of an academic or art area conflict, the student must arrange an alternate time in advance.

Late Policy: Work will rarely be "turned in" as this course centers around the idea of "concept checks." A concept check is essentially a question or two that is answered at the beginning of class where students may use their notes/homework as a guide. Not completing the homework or taking ineffective notes does not excuse a student from taking the concept check. However, should a student be absent from school the day of the concept check, the expectation is that the student will complete the check upon their return. If absent the day of a major exam or project, the student should e-mail the teacher and request the alternate day to make up the missing work. The default make-up day/time will be upon returning to class during the class period. Due to the nature of the school, a missed lab will be excused and the student will not have an opportunity to complete the experience unless there is a large enough group missing to dictate the need for a lab make-up date.

Tests (aka Celebrations of Learning) are the only true "summative" assessments that are completed independently. There is only ONE test in a given six weeks primarily covering content from that cycle. Tests are designed to be one hour long with a mix of multiple choice and free response questions. There is a hard time cap of 90 minutes for all students. Due to this time limit, lack of practice/familiarity with the material may result in an unfinished exam.

Group Quizzes are given at the end of a unit of study and act as a review. Groups are assigned randomly and all students in the group receive the same grade based on their solution to the selected problems. Should a student not be able to come to an agreement with the rest of the group, the student may choose to "Go Rogue" before their quiz is graded so they may receive a different score.

Tutorials will be offered and scheduled as needed hosted in room 329

Teacher availability (out of class):

During Lunchtime	Everyday (unless there is a teacher meeting)
After School	3:35 – 4:30 (by appointment)

Homework is primarily in the form of online posted problems and is intended as practice for new skills. As noted in the late policy, the homework itself is not collected, but students may use their handwritten homework or notes for "concept checks." Concept checks are at the beginning of class and are similar to, but not the same as, the homework. One concept check grade is dropped each six weeks.

Extra Credit There are only two opportunities for extra credit during the year: Thanksgiving Break and Spring Break. The assignments will be posted the week before and due the Wednesday upon return to allow students plenty of time to complete the assignment should they be out of town.

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Academic Honesty: A student found in violation of academic honesty will be subject to a grade of zero for the assignment, a "P" in conduct for that marking period, administrative referral, and/or further disciplinary action. A student may opt to retake the assignment with an averaging of the two grades. As a side effect, not due to any policy, you may find your tests scores to fall as well due to lack of comprehension of the subject matter.

Cell Phone Policy: Unless otherwise specified, cell phones will be placed into "The Phone Hotel" at the beginning of class and can be retrieved the last 5 minutes of class. Any cell phones out in the classroom, whether used or not will be collected and turned into the office to be retrieved at the end of the day. Wonder what prompted this policy? Read this article: [CLICK HERE](#)

Course Outline

Chapters are correlated to the OpenStax College Physics for AP courses textbook. Check online calendar for any updated test dates.

AP Physics Course Plan 2019-2020

Unit	Topic	Chapters OpenStax College Physics	90 minute Class Periods (Including Assessment Day)	Unit Assessment Date*	
				Red	Grey
1	Measurement, Graphing, Vectors & Skills	1, 2.2	4	9/4	9/5
2	Newton's Laws of Motion w/ Friction	4, 5	8	9/26	9/27
3	1D & 2D Kinematics	2, 3	7	10/17	10/18
4	Circular Motion and Universal gravitation	6	6	11/4	11/5
5	Work, Energy and Power	7, 9	6	11/20	11/21
6	Linear Momentum	8	4	12/9	12/10
Fall Semester Exam				TBD	
7	Thermodynamics and Fluids	11, 12, 13, 14, 15	6	1/21	1/22
8	Electrostatics	18, 19	6	2/6	2/7
9	Circuits	20, 21	7	2/26	2/27
10	Magnetism and Electromagnetism	22, 23	7	3/26	3/27
11	Waves, Simple Harmonic motion, and Sound	16, 17, 24	8	4/21	4/22
12	Light & Optics	25, 26, 27	10	5/19	5/20
13	Quantum, Atomic & Nuclear Physics	28, 29, 30, 31, 32	During AP Weeks	Not Tested	Not Tested
Spring Semester Exam				TBD	

*The test dates may be modified based on student needs.

Once you have reviewed the above, complete the online "signature sheet" and student data form for your first assignment. [CLICK HERE](#)