

Physics – Course Syllabus

Mr. Hamilton

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Textbook: Holt *Physics*

Course Description

This course will cover some of the major topics in the area of physics, including:

- Forces and Interactions
- Energy
- Waves and Electromagnetic Radiation

Classroom Rules

The basic rules that apply in any classroom environment.

Those special to this class:

- No food or drink in the classroom. (Water is permitted if it is in a sealable bottle. Metal bottles must be in the student's backpack at all times during class. If the student has no backpack, it must be left on the back ledge of the classroom.)
- No hats.
- Cell phones will be in the cell phone caddy at all times during class time unless given special permission to use as a timing device or the like. • No charging electronic devices in the classroom.
- Do not touch the scientific equipment without my permission.

Recommended Class Materials

- A three ring binder for notes, handouts, class assignments
- Scientific calculator (You may use a graphing calculator, but one is not needed.)
- Graph Paper (small squares)
- Metric ruler
- Protractor

Grading

- Homework/Classwork = 15%
- Labs/Lab Reports = 30%
- Tests/Quizzes = 45% quizzes may be given at any time, tests are generally given after each chapter
- Final Examination = 10%

Laboratory Investigations

Laboratory experiments are designed to complement the lecture/discussion portion of the course by providing opportunities to learn about physics through firsthand observations, to test concepts and principles which have been introduced in class, to explore specific issues and problems in greater depth, and to gain an awareness of the importance of variables which exist in the real world.

Students will use mathematical techniques to analyze and interpret results from data.

Some labs may require students to design their own procedure, and then carry out the lab and do their own data and graphical analyses. All labs are hands on. Students may submit formal lab write-ups for a number of lab investigations.

Absences

It is the student's responsibility to find out what was missed in class and assigned as homework on the date of his/her absence. All assignments will be posted on Canvas. *No assignments will be accepted through Canvas.*

Assignments

- Your full name, the date the assignment was assigned, and the period you are in will be written in the top right corner of all assignments.
- All assignments will be done neatly and legibly; papers will be clean and will not be ripped or crumpled when turned in. Assignments that do not meet these criteria will not be accepted.

Tip: Keep all of your work for this class until the end of the school year. If a student feels as though there is a problem with his/her grade, I will require proof that the student did the assignment and had it graded by me. This can only come from producing the assignment(s) in question with my mark on it.

Late Work*

- All work must be shown in order to receive full credit for an assignment.
- Late homework will only be accepted in case of absence.
- The same number of days will be allotted for turning in a homework assignment and receiving full credit as were missed due to an absence only.
- Any homework turned in late (due to absence only) must have the word *Absent* written at the top of the assignment, along with the date or dates that the student was absent. If this date range does not match up to the student's actual absence, or if any part of this is not written as instructed, no credit will be given for the assignment.
- Missed laboratory data collection will be made up on the student's own time after school, during lunch/intervention within one week of the student's return to class. Accommodations must be made with Mr. Hamilton ahead of time. No lab can be made up after one week from the student's return to school.
- If a student is absent the day of the test only, the test will be made up on the student's own time after school, during lunch/intervention within one week of the student's return to class. No test can be made up after one week from the student's return to school. Accommodations must be made with Mr. Hamilton ahead of time.
- If a student will be absent because of a school field trip or athletic event on a date on which an assignment is due, the assignment is due before the student leaves for that activity or event on the same day that it is due.

Cheating Policy

See student handbook.

Do not copy anything from the internet. If I put part or all of an answer into an internet search, and part or all of that answer comes up word for word as one of the results, I will consider the answer to have been copied, the student will receive a zero grade for that assignment, and the school's disciplinary procedures may be applied.

If you are caught cheating in this or any other class, do not bother asking me for a letter of recommendation; I will not write one for you.

Keys to Doing Well in This Class

- Pay attention; take notes; do all examples.
- Ask questions.
- Do a rough draft of your lab report within three days of its being assigned, and bring it to me for a critique. I will read and critique it as many times as is reasonable before the due date.
- Come for help during break, intervention/lunch, after school.
- Do not copy homework.
- Work hard.

*Schoolwide Advanced Placement Late Work Policy

Late Work:

Each teacher can set the late policy for their own class. But, the maximum time given to turn in an assignment late and still receive any credit will be one week after the due date. No work will be accepted for any amount of credit in any AP course after one week has passed after the due date. Total credit will be dictated by each individual teacher, but in no case will it be the full credit for that assignment. The manner in which late assignments are completed/submitted will also be dictated by the individual teacher.

Absences:

For all **Non-School Business related absences**, students are given one additional day for submission of any assignments due on the date of the absence. Students are also given one additional day per day of absence to complete each assignment equaling the total amount of days missed.

For all **School Business related absences**, students are required to submit assignments on or before the deadline, even though the student will not be in class. Students are given an additional day to complete assignments given on the date of the missed class.

When a student misses an assessment, the time allotted for that student to make up the missed assessment will be dictated by the individual teacher, but in no case will a student be given more than one week to make up the missed assessment in any AP course.

Scheduling of School Day Activities:

When possible, school activities will be scheduled on Wednesdays and/or during 6th and 7th period. Arts teachers will take into account the activities they are scheduling during the day and try to limit superfluous events as much as possible.