

Physics Course Syllabus 2015-2016

WELCOME TO THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF PHYSICS! THIS COURSE WILL INCLUDE THE MAJOR CONCEPTS, METHODS, AND APPLICATIONS OF PHYSICS. THE TOPICS THAT WE WILL BE COVERING INCLUDE A DESCRIPTION OF MOTION, NEWTON'S LAWS, CONSERVATION PRINCIPALS (ENERGY AND MOMENTUM), WAVES, ELECTRICITY, MAGNETISM, OPTICS, AND MODERN PHYSICS.

IF YOU SHOULD STRUGGLE ANY TIME DURING THE YEAR, PLEASE COME TALK TO ME BEFORE YOU FIND YOURSELF IN BIG TROUBLE. DO NOT ALLOW THE MATERIAL TO OVERWHELM YOU (PLAN AHEAD AND WORK EVERYDAY IN SMALL TIME BLOCKS INSTEAD OF CRAMMING THE NIGHT BEFORE THE EXAM). WITH A LITTLE HARD WORK ON BOTH OUR PARTS, THIS SHOULD BE A GREAT YEAR!

Your success in this course will directly reflect on the amount of time and energy you put into it. Here are some hints to help you:

- Come to class daily and on time.
- Come to class prepared.
- Participate actively and ask questions as soon as you need help
- Keep detailed notes about demos and examples presented in class. You will be given note packets to follow along with lectures but feel free to add your own notes or reminders to these.
- Keep up with your work.

Please bring the following materials to class daily:

- **Writing Utensils:** blue/black pen for labs and a sharpened pencil for note taking.
- **3 ring binder:** For this class I will require you to have a three ring binder that is separated into sections. You will be receiving note packets in addition to lab reports and homework and it is a good idea to keep all this material organized for use when reviewing for exams. It might also be a good idea to include loose leaf paper for taking additional notes and for labs later on in the year.
- **Calculator:** Graphing or scientific. I have a few calculators on hand but you need to bring yours to class daily. We do a lot of calculations in this class and without a calculator (or with a basic calculator) you will struggle. Calculators on cell phones, iPods, and other electronic devices are not acceptable.
- **Textbook:** The textbook for this class is *Glencoe - Physics*. You will check your textbook out at the beginning of the school year and return them at the end. Textbooks need to be covered.

GRADING:

Science is a hands-on subject and as such students will be doing laboratory work as well as book work. Students will be graded most heavily on their tests and laboratory work. The course grade will be determined by your performance on the following breakdown:

Homework	15%
Quizzes	10%
Labs	35%

Exams _____ 40 %

I will use the school's grading system:

A = 93%-100%

B = 83% - 92%

C = 73%-82%

D = 65%-72%

F = 64% and below

I = Incomplete

You may come see me any time before or after school to inquire about your grades. During class time is not an appropriate time to ask about grades.

Plagiarism: For labs, students are expected to have similar results as their lab partner. However, if their information matches someone other than their lab partner than they will be questioned. Cheating on a test or homework will result in a zero for one or both students and the incident will be reported to the office for further disciplinary measures.

HOMEWORK:

Homework is due at the BEGINNING of the class on the date specified by the teacher. It is due upon returning to class if you are absent on the regular due date. Any homework handed in a day late will receive half credit. At two days late you will receive no credit but the assignment must still be handed in. Most of the time you will have to do these assignments at home or in study hall because you will need class time for labs and related activities. Your homework grade will also include participation in class, attendance, and use of class time.

QUIZZES:

The 10% of your grade devoted to quizzes will include the following: pop quizzes, partner quizzes, and announced quizzes. Quizzes may also include laboratory work. Missed quizzes of any type DO NOT have to be made up; your grade will not be affected.

EXAMS:

An exam will be given at the end of each unit as well as two semester tests. These exams will be limited to class time and any make-up exams must be completed outside of class time.

SEMESTER EXAMS:

Any student who has a 93% or above, less than 3 (non-excused) absences, and 1 tardy or less (per semester) will be exempt from taking the semester exam.

EXTRA CREDIT:

Students will occasionally be given a chance to earn 2-3 extra credit points on exams and in class.

LABORATORY WORK:

Laboratory work is an essential part of learning, understanding, and enjoying chemistry; thus, it accounts for 35% of the overall grade. For the first few labs, lab reports will be given to you and you will be required to follow along and complete the missing information. A formal write-up (format to be discussed at a later date) will be required on later labs. Labs **MUST** be completed in blue or black ink and points will be deducted from any labs that are not. There will be exam questions based on these write-ups. Lab dates will follow the same guidelines as homework assignments. If you finish a lab or worksheet during class time, hand it in!

You will be working on most labs with one lab partner. Partners work at their assigned stations and **DO NOT** wander around the lab looking for “free” answers, wander around giving free advice to others, copy another groups lab results instead of recording their own data, or visit with other lab groups not in the immediate vicinity. You and your partner are responsible for cleaning your lab station at the end of the period. All equipment must be cleaned and returned to its proper place. If you require ‘maid service’ from the teacher or from someone in another class, points will be deducted from your lab grade for the day.

MAKE-UP WORK:

If the absence is pre-arranged, you should check with me **BEFORE** the date of the absence to get assignments and other needed information. In all other cases, see me the first day back – I am not going to come looking for you! For tests and assignments that can be made up, you will have one school day for each day absent to get these things finished and handed in. I suggest being prepared to take the test or hand in the assignment on your first day back. Lastly, laboratory work is an important part of this course; therefore, missed labs will be completed unless stated otherwise.

Semester 1	Semester 2
Scientific Measurements, Motion, Vectors, Forces, Gravitation, Momentum and Conservation	Waves, Sound, Light, Electricity, Magnetic Fields, Electromagnetism, Modern Physics*
	*Time permitting

CLASS RULES:

In addition to the student behavior policy in place by the school, I have a few rules of my own:

- No hats on in the classroom.
- No backpacks in the classroom.
- No cell phones, iPods, or other media devices.
- No water bottles or other beverage containers (cans, mugs, cups).
- Absolutely no food in the classroom.
- No speaking while I’m speaking
- Respect classmates’ personal space, opinions, and property.

Dear Parent/Legal guardians:

I welcome you and your son/daughter in my classroom. Please read this syllabus with your child. If you have concerns or questions, PLEASE contact me through the information provided below. Students please bring this syllabus signed and show it to me for credit. This syllabus must remain in your Physics binder at all times.

I look forward to getting to know you and am excited to help you with your journey in Physics.

Teacher name: Jerilyn Wood
Teacher Email: woodj@chinookschools.org
Teacher Phone: 357-2236 ext - 231

Student's name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

I have read the course syllabus and agree to pledge all my support and cooperation in urging my son/daughter to comply with the above requirements, rules, and policies.

Parent Name: _____

Daytime phone #: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____