



2018-19

Instructor: Mr. Meléndez

#### Contact Information

Classroom: 602-496-3082 (before 8:30 AM or after 4PM)

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#### Course Description

Physics is the study of matter, matter interactions, and energy. Our world and universe are very dynamic and complex systems. With physics, we try to create simplified models to help us create understanding for how our world and universe “work.” Though we can use a variety of types of models, the most useful ones are often mathematical. The focus of this course will be to help you develop understanding of some of these models. Along the way, the intent of this course is to help you develop a meaningful understanding and lifelong appreciation of physics. To help you understand how physics governs problem solving in engineering and technology. And, to enable you to become an analytical, articulate, and educated adult capable of making wise and informed decisions related to science policies.

#### Physics Standards

- Mechanics
- Matter and Interactions
- Electricity & Magnetism
- Waves and Oscillations
- Modern Physics

### **Daily Required Materials**

Please have the following materials with you every day in class:

- **Quadrille, bound math journal**  
Your journal should be used on a daily basis for the purpose of taking notes, writing reflections, or addressing any other classroom tasks. This journal should serve as a valuable resource for studying and reviewing concepts. Take great care and pride with your journal as this will serve as your most valuable resource.
- **pencils/pens** (mechanical pencils are recommended)  
All assignments, quizzes, and exams should be done in pencil unless told otherwise.
- **scientific calculator** (has *sin*, *cos*, *tan*, and *log* buttons)  
*The use of a calculator app on your phone is never allowed during class time.*
- **2" -three ring binder**: The three ring binder should be used to keep all class handouts as well as all of your assignments (graded or ungraded) neatly and chronologically (most recent on the bottom). Please place the date in the upper right hand corner of every assignment and handout. You may keep this in the classroom if you wish.

### **Classroom Behavioral Expectations**

- Be on time, appropriately dressed, and have all of your required daily materials
- Every class is crucial! Make a great effort to attend every class; more than two absences (excused or not) per quarter is too many!
- Be respectful of everyone and treat them with dignity, respect, and kindness at all times; be willing to collaborate; help others and let them help you. We are a *community* with a common learning mission
- Follow the classroom and school rules and policies
- Take care of the classroom facilities and all the materials and equipment contained within it. Always follow the teachers' instructions with respect to proper use of materials and equipment. Please help clean up and return all items to their designated places.
- Be diligent, focused, and engaged at all times – give maximum effort

### **Classroom Policies**

- No food, candy, snacks, or beverages (besides water) are allowed in the classroom. Gum is allowed provided it is not a distraction for you or others.
- Personal electronic devices (phones, tablets, etc.) should be "off" and out of sight unless permission is granted for their use in a classroom activity or for taking a picture of a whiteboard display or demonstration. You may not "take" any calls during class. You must leave your phone in the classroom whenever you leave for the bathroom.

- Wait for an appropriate time to ask permission to go to the restroom and please do so sparingly (1-2 times per week). Please be sure to sign yourself “out” only after permission has been given.
- Healthy snacks and beverages can be consumed in the classroom during designated tutoring/study sessions that take place before school, during lunch, or after school. Please clean up after yourselves.
- Be diligent, focused, and engaged at all times – give maximum effort

### **Assignments**

The completion of all assignments is crucial to your success in the class. These will take the form of readings, investigations, investigation write ups, problems sets, and other tasks. Complete all of the assignments and please see me if you are having difficulties. Tutoring and assistance is available on a daily basis through extended class time and after school tutoring. Please take advantage of these times.

### **Tutoring**

Generally speaking, lunch time and M-F: 4:00 - 5:00 PM. I will often stay beyond 5PM and will at times be available before the start of school. Please stop by.

### **Passing Grades**

Although you will be graded based on the level to which you master the standards, your grade will be determined by the percentage of total points that you accrue.

A*	≥ 97%
A	≥ 90%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%

Your grade will be weighted approximately in the following manner:

Regular Written Assessments	35%
Assignments, Investigations, Labs, Practicum	35%
Journal and Binder	5%
Participation and Informal Assessments	10%
Final Written Exams (December & May)	15%

*\*Note: The final exam may be weighed more heavily in the case where it is beneficial to the student's overall grade.*

*Please contact me as soon as possible for any concerns or difficulties that you may have. I want this class to be a truly great experience for you!*