

Honors Physics

2017-2018 School Year

Welcome to Physics! Please read these policies carefully so you know what is expected for this school year. I have great expectations for all of you. If you complete classwork and homework thoroughly, stay organized, and review regularly you should have no problem meeting your goals. Students will be participating in class and in lab activities on a regular basis, therefore, it is essential that students attend class daily. Ask questions about the world around you and always do your personal best.

Course Description: This course is modeled as an intermediate algebra-based physics course. There will be an emphasis on developing a conceptual understanding of the major topics of physics and developing problems solving skills in those topic areas. Emphasis will be put on understanding the theories at hand and identifying them in everyday life. Students will demonstrate entry-level proficiency typical of a first year physics course on the following topics:

- Newtonian Mechanics (the motion of objects)
- Classical Thermodynamics (the nature of heat)
- Electricity & Magnetism (including DC electronics)

Materials

It is your responsibility to come prepared to class each day with the following materials. When the bell rings I expect you to be in your seat, completing the Warm-Up then writing down any homework posted.

- Your **textbook**
- **Scientific Calculator**
- A **binder with lined paper, graph paper and 3 dividers** (Warm-Ups, Notes, Returned Assignments)
- **Highlighter, Pen, and Pencil**
- Suggested Items: Ruler, Color Pencils, Ear Buds

These items should be brought to class every day.

Grading Policy

Tests/Projects/Labs	70%
Classwork/Homework	20%
Warm-Ups/ College & Career	10%
Readiness	

If classwork and homework are completed with effort and in a timely manner, you will be very successful in this class.

Classwork/Homework

- Late/incomplete classwork and homework will be accepted up to 1 day late for a maximum of 70% credit.
Remember: 70% > 0%!
- Students are expected to do their own work. This includes class work and homework. Just copying one answer is still cheating and is cheating yourself. If caught, the copied work will be confiscated, you and the person copied from will receive 0's, and the office will be notified of the *honor code* violation. Repeat offenses will result in a conference between students, parent, teacher and administrator.

Absences

- It is your responsibility to make up assignments when you are absent.
- You have **one day** for each day absent to make up an assignment.
- All classwork and homework assignments are located in a labeled binder *in class* and on Google Classroom (link can be found through the class website **teachers.oakarts.org/~jwatts**)
- Tests are to be made up the first day of your return unless there have been excessive absences.

Lab Fee Donation: This year we are requesting a lab fee donation of \$20 per student. We believe that using inquiry and hands-on science is the best way to learn abstract concepts. The lab fee will allow us to purchase materials that support this type of learning. Please contact me individually if you are not able to provide the lab fee at this time.

Phone Policy: Cell phones must be put away during class until requested to be brought out by the teacher for academic use. I will provide both an auditory and visual cue displaying that phones may be out and for what purpose. In the case that these parameters are not followed:

1st offense – the student will be given a warning to put the phone away

2nd offense – phone will be held by the teacher for the period

3rd offense – a referral will be issued and parent/guardian will be contacted

**This policy is in place to create the best learning environment for students, not to make your or my life miserable ☺*

Help! Remember, **I am here to help you SUCCEED!** If you are having trouble, don't hesitate to make an appointment to meet me at lunch or after school for extra help. Please don't wait until the last minute to get assistance! If you, or a parent/guardian have a question, please feel free to contact me via e-mail or phone. Please reinforce to your child that he/she may not answer or check his/her cell phone during class. ***In an emergency, please call the office at 510-873-8800, NOT your student's cell phone.**

Best,
Ms. Jessica Watts

E-mail Contact: jwatts@oakarts.org

Phone Contact: 510-873-8800 ext. 8323

Website: teachers.oakarts.org/~jwatts

Office Hours: Wednesdays @ lunch or by appointment

Please return the syllabus by _____

I have read and understand the responsibilities and grading policies of this course.

Student Name (Printed)_____ Period_____

Student Signature_____

I understand the expectations for my student. I have read and understand the responsibilities and grading policies for this course.

Parent/Guardian Name (Printed)_____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Best phone number(s) to reach you at: _____

Email: _____