

CONCEPTUAL PHYSICS

INTRODUCTION AND ADMINISTRATION

Course Title: Conceptual Physics

Course Instructor: Ms. Frandsen, Room 41

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Class Wiki: <http://mrclarkphysics.wikispaces.com/>

This course is an in-depth study of the central concepts of physics requiring problem solving skills and basic mathematical skills. Topics include: motion, forces, work, energy, momentum, electromagnetism, electricity, waves, thermodynamics, and basic fluids. The basic text is Hewitt's *Conceptual Physics*. Physics is a 2-semester, 10 unit science course for Lincoln H.S. graduation.

CLASS REQUIREMENTS:

1) Homework/In class assignments: Homework will be assigned each night and will be checked the following day for completion but will be due until the end of the day on the assigned due date (usually Friday). Late homework will be accepted during this course up until the unit test for half credit. The lowest-scored assignment (only one) will also be dropped each semester. It is, however, in your best interest to complete the homework on time to maintain a thorough understanding of the concepts and to be prepared for the weekly quiz.

2) Quizzes and Exams: Test will generally be scheduled at least two days ahead of time. Make-up tests may be different from the original test. You will have as many days as you were absent to make-up a test. Scheduled absences (extracurricular activities) on testing days must be coordinated with the teacher at least 48 hours in advance. You must schedule your make-up test with your instructor. Failure to contact the instructor for the make-up will result in a "0" grade. Quizzes will be given every Friday, excepting weeks when a test is given. *You will have the opportunity to earn back up to half the points you missed by submitting test and quiz corrections!*

3) Projects/Labs: Both Projects and Labs will generally be a group activity and a *team* lab report/project will be submitted for grading. All team members must demonstrate *individual contributions* to the exercise. All team members will be held responsible for the safe use and return of all equipment assigned to their group.

4) Class Participation: Points will be given for on-time attendance and full participation in all class activities.

GRADING: Your grade will be calculated using the following approximate guidelines: Tests and Quizzes (50%), Homework/Class Exercises (20%), Projects and Labs (25%), and Class Participation (5%). Test scores may be evaluated on a curve, at the instructor's discretion. General guidelines for report card letter grades are (approximately):

90% - 100% = A (excellent) 80% - 89% = B (good)
70% - 79% = C (average) 60% - 69% = D (poor) 0% - 59% = F (failing)
There may be some limited extra credit opportunities offered throughout the year.

EXPECTED CLASSROOM BEHAVIORS:

- 1) All people in the classroom will be respectful to each other, to the room, and the materials in the room.
 - Using respectful language to each other, teacher, and guests
 - Keeping tables, or other lab equipment in good condition and unmarked
 - Disposing of food, gum, and non-water before entering the classroom
- 2) All people in the classroom will be prepared, and ready with necessary documents
 - Bringing in all materials to succeed in the class (i.e books, pencils, paper, binder)
 - Having papers ready to turn in on the due date.
- 3) From the bell, everyone will be ready to engage in the class.
 - When the tardy bell rings, students and teacher will be engaged on the first item of the agenda

If the above guidelines are not met, the following responses will be issued.

- 1) Not being respectful or engaged
 - a) Verbal warning
 - b) Talk between teacher and student
 - c) Behavior contract between student and teacher
 - d) Call home for parent discussion and/or detention
 - e) Administrative action

Note: All major disruptions will result in immediate administrative action

- 2) Not being prepared
 - a) Assignments not turned in on the due date will suffer a point reduction
 - b) Assignments may be turned in before the 6 week grading period for partial credit.
 - c) After the 6 week grading period, no assignments will be collected.

Safety:

Safety in the class is essential! Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated and could result in a “0” on an assignment. Safety is common sense. By enrolling in this course you are agreeing to use common sense and obey the following rules. Serious violations can result in removal from the course.

- The instructor will demonstrate how to use all equipment
- Make sure you are familiar with all equipment before using it

Course Information Acknowledgement Form

Student Acknowledgment: I have thoroughly read the course information.

.....
Signature of Student

.....
Date

.....
Printed Name of Student

.....
Class Period

Parent/Guardian Acknowledgement: I have read the course information with my child.

.....
Signature of Parent or Guardian

.....
Date

Preferred method of communication:

.....
Phone Number

.....
Email Address

What times are best to get ahold of you?

Is there anything you would like to share with me concerning your student? Please use the space below (or the back of the page) for your response.