

Physics Course Outline and Student Expectations

Morris Central School

2024-25 Academic Year

Instructor: Mrs. Fredette

Phone (school):(607) 263-6100

E-mail (school): jfredette@morriscsd.org

Instructional Philosophy

Physics is a demanding course that is meant to impart not only fundamental concepts and facts, but also the excitement and rewards of making discoveries. Fundamentally, Physics is the study of the interactions between energy and matter. Physics deals with energy in many different forms including motion, electricity, light, and gravity. This course is designed to enhance your knowledge of Physics as it applies to the world around you and help you develop higher order critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Historical perspectives will be addressed as well as some of the more recent findings and their implications. We will be using physics to answer the question: "How does the world work?"

Necessary Daily Course Materials

3-ring binder, teacher provided note packets, paper, pencils, pens, Prentice Hall Review Book, and daily assignments.

Books/Publications

Conceptual Physics by Paul Hewitt

Prentice Hall Brief Review Physics: This part of your daily carry. It needs to be brought to class everyday!

School Publications : You also will be responsible for other publications assigned during the course of the academic year.

Course Major Themes/Topics

The following topics will be covered in the Regents Physics course this year. Topics will be taught through lecture, demonstration and various instructional methods. The topics will also be reinforced through lab experiences.

- Measurement and Mathematics
- Mechanics
- Energy
- Electricity and Magnetism
- Waves
- Modern Physics

Evaluation Scheme -- Physics

**** I grade based on a total point scale based on the BOE's policy of weighting 60% (test/quiz and labs) and 40% (classwork, attendance, participation, homework)**

1. **Quizzes and Tests** -- Tests will usually count as four quiz grades within this scheme. Any changes to this scheme will be announced by your instructor. Unannounced quizzes based on work during the preceding class/lab periods may occur at any time. **Expect to have at least one quiz or test a week.**

* The maintenance of a satisfactory notebook to be collected upon demand by the instructor is a MANDATORY requirement. This will be weighted as **one test grade** during marking periods where a notebook is collected. I will collect the notebook multiple times during the school year.

2. **Homework assignments -- (usually count as 20 points each)** You will be responsible to keep a homework calendar. At the end of each month I will collect the calendar and calculate your homework average. Completion of your homework is not an option. It is essential to doing well in this course. **Expect to have homework every night.**

3. **Lab -- (at least 25 points each)** Labs will be evaluated and this score will be calculated with the class average at the close of the marking period at the overall class average. More will be stated about lab reports and evaluation of the laboratory during the year. Laboratory information may also be evaluated in the homework or test/quiz categories at the discretion of the instructor.

**** All labs or lab activities we do must be completed successfully (85% and above) in order for the student to take the Regents examination.**

4. **Class Participation and Attendance—(about 10 points a day)** This will be checked on a daily basis. If you are present and are an active participant in your own learning you will earn the full points for that day. **Frequent absences or tardiness will affect this grade.**

** In addition, research papers, projects, or oral reports, may be assigned at any time at the instructor's discretion. The scoring of these activities for a grade will be announced at the times these are given. The instructor reserves the right to give different quizzes/tests, assignments, or lab reports to make up for absences. Changes or modifications in the evaluation policies previously listed may be made any time at the instructor's discretion.

Student Expectations:

1. **You** are responsible for getting the notes and the assignments for any time you miss class or lab due to absence(s). Get these materials from me or other students, if not they are not scanned and included on Google Classroom. Please do not ask me what was for homework. **IT IS POSTED on Google Classroom! And if you are absent, you are responsible for the homework, projects etc. that were assigned the day BEFORE you were absent AND the day you were absent.**
2. I reserve the right to inspect your notebooks at any time for evaluation. I may grade some or all of the notebooks at any time. I EXPECT YOU TO MAINTAIN SEPARATE A NOTEBOOK THAT I CAN COLLECT AT ANY TIME.
3. I expect all students to participate in all laboratory activities. If you miss a laboratory session, **YOU** are responsible to schedule a time to make up the work. You must do the lab time in order for the lab to count as lab minutes.
4. If you know you are going to be out of school for an extended period, please arrange with me **at least two weeks in advance** to obtain the work you will be missing.
5. Under no circumstances will late assignments be given full credit unless your **special** circumstances are discussed with me before the assignment is due.
6. **Safety Protocols** Students are expected to follow the safety guidelines covered during the first week of school. There is a zero tolerance policy for unsafe practices during laboratory activities.
7. For other class policies, refer to your student handbook.

Learning Expectations:

1. You will be *earning* your grades in this class, I do not *give* grades.
2. Regular, and active class participation is required. For example: just logging in to Google Classroom is not enough.
3. I expect you to study **at least 10 minutes in addition to** the time it takes to complete homework on a daily basis.
4. Come to class prepared to learn. You are responsible for your own learning.
5. Complete ALL assignments to the best of your ability.
6. Do NOT fall behind in your work. It is your responsibility to stay caught up.
7. Reading assignments are NOT optional.
8. Expect quizzes every week. You will also complete unit exams.
9. Follow school and lab safety rules and policies.

After reading, and any questions you have are answered, please sign below.

I understand the **Physics Course Outline and Expectations.**

Student Signature

Date

Parent's Signature

Date