

A.P. PHYSICS-C: GENERAL CLASS INFO

Mr. Smith

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Unscheduled Hours: MWF Periods 3, 6
Tues Period 3, 4
Thurs Period 3, 4, 6

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Welcome to A.P. Physics-C at Arapahoe High School! One goal of this class is obviously that students would learn a lot of science content about 'how the universe works'. Another goal of this class is to allow students to practice habits that will help ensure success in college. They will be required to read and understand the material in the textbook. Class time will be devoted to demonstrating and discussing concepts covered in the text. Labs, homework and worksheets will be used to supplement lectures and textbook reading assignments. Students are encouraged to seek individual help from the teacher. As your teacher, it is my job to help you successfully meet these expectations. However, you are ultimately responsible for your learning. This means being actively engaged, asking questions, and getting extra help during unscheduled hours if necessary.

COURSE PROCEDURES:

Behavior. Our classroom will be a professional learning environment. In other words, when you are in my class, your job is to learn. Your behavior should be a reflection of this responsibility. Act like an adult, listen, participate, and treat each other with respect. Hats, food, drinks, cell phones, and other electronic devices should be put away in class, unless indicated otherwise by a teacher for a specific activity. If these items are out during class, they will be taken and given to an administrator, to be picked up by a parent.

Attendance. Because we build on previous knowledge, missing a day of physics can feel like missing a week. Do your best to attend class regularly. If you are absent, see me as soon as possible for make up work. It is your responsibility to find out what you missed! For an excused absence, you have as many days as you missed to complete and turn in the work. For a pre-arranged excused absence (i.e. field trips, band trips, athletic event) you must turn in assignments, projects, and complete test/quizzes before you leave.

Tardies. It is my expectation that you are on time to class. If being tardy becomes an issue, we will take the following steps: 1. Warning/discussion, 2. Phone call home, 3. Referral.

Late Work. It is my belief that the work you are assigned is an important part of the learning process, and that it must be completed in a timely fashion in order to be of utmost help to you in learning. Therefore, no late work is accepted.

Academic Dishonesty. Arapahoe adheres to a strict policy regarding academic dishonesty (cheating). Please refer to your student calendar for a more detailed description. In regards to physics, all we ask is that you do your own work. This includes assignments, projects, and especially the completion of questions during lab. You are encouraged to work together on appropriate assignments, but recognize that working together is MUCH different from copying someone else's work.

GRADING:

Grades should not be the ultimate goal, but feedback about your progress towards the ultimate goal of knowing and understanding physics. In an attempt to communicate with students and parents about this progress, and to accurately measure this progress, weighted categories will be used in determining a student's grade. Assignments, activities, labs, projects, tests, and quizzes will all then fall under one or more of these categories during grading. These categories are: Quizzes (15%), Labs (15%), HW Problems (15%), Tests (40%), Final Exam (15%). Ultimately, your final semester grades will be calculated according to the following scale:

A+	99-100	B-	80-81.9	D+	68-69.9
A	92-97.9	C+	78-79.9	D	62-67.9
A-	90-91.9	C	72-77.9	D-	60-61.9
B+	88-89.9	C-	70-71.9	F	59.9 & below
B	82-87.9				

Like all classes at Arapahoe, your grades are available to view online:
<https://campus.lps.k12.co.us/campus/portal/littleton.jsp>

MATERIALS:

Please come to class each day with the following materials:

Three-Ring Binder
Scientific Calculator
Loose-Leaf Paper

Your textbook
Writing Utensil
Optional: USB Jump Drive

Being unprepared for class will result in a more difficult time for your progress in learning, and could also result in disciplinary action if a pattern is established.

PHYSICS LAB EXPECTATIONS:

Laboratory. Laboratory work will occur regularly in this class. Emphasis will be placed on: problem solving, learning to correctly use the equipment, and working in small groups. Part of the grade is based on the ability to accurately determine a given value or prove a basic concept. Remember, tests will include the material you learned in lab.

Make-up Lab. Currently we have no scheduled time to make up labs that were missed. If you miss a lab it is your responsibility to make an appointment with me to complete the lab. You will have one week to complete the lab.

Safety Guidelines. Use the science laboratory for authorized work only. Know how to use the safety equipment and know the location of the fire extinguisher, eyewash station, safety shower, and fire blanket. Be sure to report any incident, accident, injury, or unsafe procedure to the teacher. Place broken glass and disposable materials in their designated containers. There will be a breakage fee for any broken laboratory equipment. When using moving objects, make sure you are clear of other students. Use proper equipment to handle hot glassware. Tie back long hair, remove dangling jewelry, roll up loose sleeves and tuck in loose clothing. At the end of lab, clean up all supplies.