

Honors Physics Syllabus
Mr. Matt Bay
Phone: (402) 999-8655
Email: matt.bay@ralstonschools.org

CLASSROOM RULES

Be Safe
Be Responsible
Be Respectful
Be There

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The students should develop an attitude of curiosity and wonder in the natural world. They should strive to describe the natural events that they see in a logical way. Students in this class will be engaged in describing the motion of the physical world through the lenses of force and energy. They will predict outcomes of events and have a better sense for the physical world around them. Students should develop scientific skills in order to solve problems in a logical manner and test hypotheses in an unbiased fashion.

THINKING SKILLS OBJECTIVES

Higher order thinking skills (analyzing, evaluating, synthesizing, and application of concepts) will be taught as students apply the concepts of physical science and the scientific method to the lab work available in class. Students will be asked to develop mathematical relationships between variables, construct graphs from experimental data and draw conclusions, which are presented in lab reports. Students will be asked to be reflective in their learning, being encouraged to think about the way that they learn and problem solve. Writing will become an important aspect of class, students will need to practice grammar and writing skills throughout the course of the semester.

REQUIRED TEXT

Inspire Physics, McGraw Hill Education, 2020, Columbus, Ohio

UNITS OF STUDY

Term 1

Unit 1: Measurement
Unit 2: Equilibrium
Unit 3: Kinematics
Unit 4: Dynamics

Term 2

Unit 5: Circular Motion and Celestial Mechanics
Unit 6: Energy
Unit 7: Momentum
Unit 8: Waves and Sound

Optional Units (Time Permitting): Electricity and Magnetism, Thermodynamics

BEHAVIOR

1. Be courteous and attentive. No sleeping or working on homework for other classes unless you have finished all science classwork and have obtained permission.
2. **No phones (and all personal electronic devices) and/or headphones** allowed in class. Students should put phones in the secured case at the beginning of class. If I see that you have not done so during class, the first offense will be a documentation and the phone will be secured. The second offense will lead to an office referral. Refusal to secure phones at the teachers request will lead to removal from class.
3. Only ask to leave the classroom (restroom, drink, etc.) during **your work time**. You must use eHallpass. Only one person will be allowed to leave at a time. You are not allowed to go to the vending machines after class starts.
4. Chromebooks or other technology should not be used for personal reasons during class. If this happens, your computer privileges will be taken away and a referral will be written.

5. Bring everything you need for class to your desk before class starts. If you have to go to your locker for any class materials, you will be counted tardy.
6. Absolutely no food will be allowed in the classroom unless otherwise specified or provided by me. You may have water.
7. Use all materials appropriately and safely. Follow all instructions and ask for help if needed.
8. All school wide expectations that are in the student handbook will be followed and enforced.
9. Consequences may include verbal warnings, student conference, removal from class, loss of credit, confiscation of distractors, parental notification, detention, and/or administrative referral.

SUPPLIES

1. Textbook (will be provided in class, you may check one out)
 2. 3-ring binder with loose leaf paper OR Notebook with folder (to be used ONLY for this class. No math, Spanish, or anything else goes in this binder/notebook)
 3. Four Colored Pens/Pencils
 4. Other suggested materials may include a calculator, ruler, highlighter, and/or colored pencils.
- **Bring all of these materials everyday. You will not be allowed to go to your locker/car/another classroom if you forget something****

GRADING

This class will be graded on a weighted category basis. The following breakdown will be used:

The grading scale selected by the Ralston Public Schools will be used.

Quizzes and Daily Work: *activities/assessments completed during the course of a unit (Ex. Homework, quizzes): 10%*

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = 0-59%

Science Skills and Labs: *activities pertaining to the scientific method and scientific skills such as measurement and interpretation of data: 30%*

Summative Assessments: *assessments designed to evaluate knowledge at the end of a content area (Ex. Tests, large projects): 60%*

1. Corrections are allowed on all summative tests per term.
 - a. In order to be eligible to retake the test, unit work must be completed to the teacher's satisfaction **and** test corrections/reflection form must be completed and turned in.
 - b. Corrections must be completed within one week of receiving your grade on the summative test.
2. Assignments and labs must be turned in to the assigned tray on time for full credit. "On time" means the beginning of your class period. ***You should turn in your work without the need for prompting!***
3. Late work will be taken for full credit if it is turned in **within the corresponding unit of study**. A 15-minute departmental detention may be required in order to regain this credit.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Plagiarizing is defined as "using another's production without crediting the source," or "stealing and passing off the ideas or words of another as one's own"

(www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/plagiarize). Any student found guilty of academic dishonesty will receive a zero on the assignment/assessment, parental contact will be made, and an office referral will be written. If an assessment, an alternative method of assessing knowledge will be arranged.

ABSENCES/TARDIES

1. In case of absence, the guidelines of Ralston High School will be followed.
2. When you are absent or tardy, it is completely and totally **YOUR** responsibility to get the missed assignment and/or lecture notes from a reliable student. Please see me with questions.
3. Make-up work that must be done in class, such as labs, quizzes, or tests must be scheduled with me. Labs will need to be done before or after school within 3 days of your return to school. Quizzes and tests **must be done the day you return** (if no new material was covered in your absence) in your study hall or during class. A written excuse is required to receive credit for the test.
4. Make up tests and quizzes may be different than the original one given on the scheduled day.
5. For a planned absence, the makeup work will be given in advance if possible. All of the work will be due on the day you get back. You should experience no delay in continuing with scheduled class work.
6. You are expected to be at class on time. "On time" means in the room when the bell rings. If you are not, you will be counted tardy.

LAB SAFETY

1. Students who fail to conduct themselves in a safe and appropriate manner during lab activities will not be able to participate in or receive credit for lab activities.

TEACHER ASSISTANCE

1. If you require additional teacher assistance, please make individual arrangements with the teacher.
2. The science department will be working collaboratively to ensure adequate access for student help outside of regular class time.

DO NOT HESITATE TO ASK QUESTIONS DURING CLASS OR GET EXTRA HELP OUT OF CLASS!!!!!!