

Physics 2022-23
Instructor: Paul Blais

Welcome to Physics and the 2017-18 school year. Physics is a study of the world around us and how it works. Class time for this year will be spent with a combination of lecture, demonstration, and laboratory assignments. I plan on having a class environment where we can openly discuss scientific concepts and where we learn by doing instead of by watching but this requires each student to fulfill certain obligations as listed below:

Students are expected to:

- be in class, taking notes when necessary, and participating in ALL class activities
- make arrangements with the instructor (within three days of an **excused** absence) to make up missed work. It is NOT the responsibility of the instructor to remind students to make arrangements. If the work is NOT made up as arranged, zeros will be given for the missed work!
- notify the instructor (personally) BEFORE missing class due to NI (non-instructional) activities, & to make up any work missed within 2 days of the NI
- sleep at home and not in class
- come to class with all supplies (notebook, paper, book, and pencil are needed daily)
- keep your phone away
- have consideration for others in class and talk to your friends later.
- be seated and ready for class when the bell rings
- BRING A CALCULATOR TO CLASS EVERY DAY
- WEAR CLOSED TOED SHOES ON LAB DAYS

Consequences for not doing what is expected in class:

First offense – warning from teacher

Second offense – one on one conference between teacher & student (usually conducted after class – may result in an unexcused tardy for the next class period)

Third offense – parent contact WITH before or after-school detention and (if warranted) immediate removal from classroom

Fourth offense – referral to the administration for further disciplinary actions

* There are some behaviors that will require immediate referral to the administration

Absences & Tardies: School-wide policies regarding absences and tardies are provided in the student handbook and will be strictly enforced.

Course Grades

Tests (50%)

Tests will be given as needed for major concepts and will cover all material since the last test as well as review questions from previous tests. Tests may consist of multiple-choice questions for part one and free response questions for part two where all work must be shown. If a student misses a test it is the responsibility of the student to schedule a make-up test which will be different from the original and may not have any multiple choice.

Labs & Quizzes & Daily Work & Homework (50%):

Labs are placed throughout the instructional year and are either teacher directed or student directed/open-ended. Student directed labs are when the students are given an objective, e.g. "Determine the acceleration due to gravity on Earth", and standard materials needed to conduct a lab. Students are allowed to create their own experimental design and collect data which can be analyzed through graphical methods. Students work in lab groups, but

each student must submit a lab report which is turned in the day after the conclusion of each activity, then graded and returned.

Semester Grades

Determined by combining the average of the two 9-week grades (which accounts for 80% of the semester grade) and the grade obtained on the Final exam (which accounts for 20% of the 2nd semester grade).

Grades for this course will be based on the following levels of performance:

Grade	Performance Description
A	Reads & turns in ALL assigned work on time; works independently to complete projects; prepares for all labs by reviewing material to be covered BEFORE the onset of the lab procedures; produces quality work; earns a (average) grade of 90% or higher on written assessments
B	Reads & turns in MOST of the assigned work on time; requires some help to complete projects; prepares for some labs but relies on lab partner for help; produces good work; earns a (average) grade of 80-89% on written assessments
C	Reads & turns in SOME of the assigned work on time; requires significant help & extra time to complete projects; relies heavily on lab partner for help; produces average work; earns a (average) grade of 70-79% on written assessments
F	Does not read assigned work or turn in assignments on time; does not successfully complete projects, produces below average work or none at all; scores below 70 on most tests & earns a grade of less than 70% for the course. Course will need to be repeated.

I am looking forward to having each of you in class. Also, I am available for help or questions whenever needed. My planning periods are 3rd and 4th period and I am always available after school or before school, whichever is best for you. Let me know when you need help and we can schedule a time. My email is blaispa@lee.k12.ga.us and the phone number at school is 903-2260.

Thanks and I look forward to a good school year.