



AP Physics 1 Instructional Plan: Fall Semester

Course Overview

Advanced Placement Physics 1 is designed to closely match a typical one-semester introductory college physics course. The AP Physics program is based on standards set forth by the College Board. The designation “1” means that this course is Algebra-based (as opposed to requiring calculus) Topics are listed in the complete course description found in Google Classroom. The course will be taught using a college level textbook and with more rigor than a regular high school physics class. It will also include college-level laboratory exercises.

Notes: • Students planning to major in Engineering or a physical science will almost certainly be required to take a physics class which is taught using calculus; however this course will provide them a strong background in the general concepts necessary for success in a more math-intensive course.

A college physics course differs significantly from the usual high school course in respect to the textbook used, the range and depth of topics covered, the laboratory work done by students, and the time and effort required. Although much of the content will be presented in class, students will be expected and required to cover additional materials on their own.

The primary emphasis of the course is on developing an understanding of concepts; to gain confidence applying several physical concepts at once in order to solve a problem; and personal experience in scientific inquiry.

Contact Information

Teacher Name: Lathrice Davis

Email: lathrice.davis@midlandisd.net

Phone: (432) 240-5047

Classroom Expectations

Our classroom is a safe learning place, which encourages teamwork, positive feedback, and academic achievement. All students will be respectful to others. We will be good listeners to the teacher and to other's ideas. All students will be hard working contributors in the process of getting their education in order to be successful and reach their full potential.

Expectation 1: Be prepared with supplies

- Prioritize attendance
- Be ready to learn everyday

Expectation 2: Participate actively and take responsibility for your learning

- Complete all assigned tasks
- Engage in class discussions, writing tasks, and learning opportunities
- Complete work on time

Expectation 3: Be respectful of the learning environment

- Report problems to an adult

Positive reinforcement and clear routines will help students learn and meet these expectations. If expectations are not met, the teacher will first reteach and remind the student(s) of expectations. If a student continues to fail to meet expectations, they will be redirected, then parents will be contacted. If a student is unable to meet expectations after these preventative measures, an office referral will be made.

Students with grades below 75 will be required to attend Mandatory tutorials on Tuesdays until their grade goes above 75.



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MISD Device Policy 2026-2027

Possession of Telecommunications or Other Electronic Devices

Students shall not:

- Use a personal telecommunications device, including, but not limited to, a cell phone and wearable technology such as the Apple Watch, smartwatches, fitness watches, paging device, radio device, or any device capable of receiving notifications or facilitating communication on school property during the school day.
- A student's personal telecommunications device shall be left at home or turned completely off and stored in a backpack for the entirety of the school day.
- Exceptions to this rule will be decided on a case-by-case basis and in compliance with relevant law and policy.

Attendance Policy & Its Importance

Regular attendance is vital to your child's academic development. When students attend daily, they develop thinking skills, and practice important habits that support lifelong learning.

Please notify the school if your child will be absent. Frequent or extended absences may make it more difficult for your child to learn necessary foundational skills that ensure student success this year and in future school years.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the first semester, students will be able to:

AP Physics 1: Students will develop skills such as:

Creating Representations	1.A Create diagrams, tables, charts, or schematics to represent physical situations.	2.A Derive a symbolic expression from known quantities by selecting and following a logical mathematical pathway.
		2.B Calculate or estimate an unknown quantity with units from known quantities, by selecting and following a logical computational pathway.
Mathematical Routines		2.C Compare physical quantities between two or more scenarios or at different times and locations in a single scenario.
		2.D Predict new values or factors of change of physical quantities using functional dependence between variables.
Scientific Questioning and Argumentation		3.A Create experimental procedures that are appropriate for a given scientific question.
	1.B Create quantitative graphs with appropriate scales and units, including plotting data.	3.B Apply an appropriate law, definition, theoretical relationship, or model to make a claim.
	1.C Create qualitative sketches of graphs that represent features of a model or the behavior of a physical system.	3.C Justify or support a claim using evidence from experimental data, physical representations, or physical principles or laws.



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Topics for 1st Semester (Please see resources below for more details):

Unit 1: Kinematics

Unit 2: Force and Translational Dynamics

Unit 3: Work, Energy and Power

Course Resources

Course Exam and Description:

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/media/pdf/ap-physics-1-course-and-exam-description.pdf>

Book:

College Physics for the AP Physics 1 & 2 Courses: (Third Edition 2023) Gay Stewart:

Online access through <https://achieve.bfwpub.com/start>

[Physicsclassroom.com](https://physicsclassroom.com)

Grading Policy

According to Midland ISD Grading Policy:

The summative evaluation of a student's grade during a recording period should be based on sufficient data collected in class in the form of various assessments. Regular and periodic assessment of student progress ensures a student has ample time for remediation.

Students must receive feedback on every graded assignment within three to seven days. Major assignments will receive feedback within ten days. Teachers will, at a minimum, communicate with students and their guardians every ten school days regarding upcoming assessments, classroom reminders, learning topics covered in class, and/or expectations. Regular communication may be electronic through the adopted Student Information System or other messaging applications. Teachers will maintain a parent communication log during each grading cycle.

Major assignments - 60% Minor assignments - 40%

Semester exams count as 15% toward the final semester grade

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) refers to computer systems and machines that mimic human processing and cognitive abilities. Student use of unapproved AI is considered academic dishonesty and will result in academic penalties. All work submitted by students should be original.

Make up/Late Work

Teachers will follow district policy concerning make-up work after absences. Make-up work must be made available to students after any absence. Teachers shall inform their students of the amount of time allotted for completing make-up work after an absence; however, the student is responsible for obtaining and completing the make-up assignments in a satisfactory manner within the allotted amount of time. A student shall be allowed at least one day of make-up time for each day of absence. See Board Policy FEC (LOCAL) for more information.

Teachers will notify students of due dates for all assignments and any changes to due dates. Students who do not turn in assignments by the designated date(s) may be subject to grade penalties.



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The following maximum penalties may be applied:

One school day late - A maximum grade of 90

Two school days late - A maximum grade of 80 or five days late - A maximum grade of 70

After five school days, work does not have to be accepted and a grade of 0 may be assigned.

School-wide System of Communication

I will be communicating with you through PowerSchool. Please be on the lookout for emails with newsletters and learning logs detailing our daily assignments.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns. We are excited to work together to make this a successful year of learning!

Please fill out the portion below and return this portion to your teacher. We acknowledge that we have read and that we understand the expectations in AP Physics. We agree to contact the teacher should we have any questions or concerns regarding this instructional plan.

Parent Name: _____

Student Name: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

E-Mail: _____

Parent Signature : _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____