

## Introduction to Physics: Course Syllabus

Ms. Avery Room 301

### Required Materials:

- Textbook- *Physics – A First Course*, Tom Hsu, PhD
- 3-ring binder with pockets & loose-leaf paper or spiral notebook/folder with pockets
- pens and pencils for writing, student planner
- scientific calculator

### Course Description:

Introduction to Physics includes the study of basic scientific laws and principles that govern matter and energy. Topics of lessons will include: matter, energy, motion, heat, light, sound, work, electricity, magnetism, gravity, atomic theory, and the periodic table.

This is a rigorous course in which students are expected to complete assignments in a timely manner. Some of this work must be completed outside of class, to maximize instructional time in the classroom. Assignments may include (but are not limited to) group activities, labs, research papers, in-class presentations, reading and writing assignments and worksheets. Students will also have regular tests over the material throughout the semester, and there will be a final examination at the end of each semester.

### Grading Policy:

The grading scale listed in the Carterville High School Student Planner/Handbook is as follows:

A = 94-100	C = 77-83
A- = 93	C- = 76
B+ = 92	D+ = 75
B = 91-85	D = 74-69
B- = 84	D- = 68
C+ = 83	F = 67-0

Point totals for coursework will differ. Tests, research papers and group projects will be weighed more heavily than daily homework assignments. Each student can calculate their grade at any point during the semester by adding up the total points they have earned, dividing the sum by the total points possible, and multiplying the answer by 100 to give the percentage. They can then refer to the grading scale to see where the percentage falls.

### Absenteeism, Tardiness, Make Up Work and Late Work:

Absenteeism and tardiness will be dealt with according to the policies listed within the student handbook. Make up policies are also listed in the handbook. It is solely the responsibility of any student who has missed class to obtain any make up work, following their return to school, and to complete this work within the time frame given in the student handbook. Failure to make up work missed due to absences will result in a grade of zero for each assignment missed, and this will have a negative impact upon the student's overall grade. Late work will be penalized by 50% the first day it is late, and it will not be accepted beyond the first day past its due date.

### Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism:

Plagiarism or cheating of any other form will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is defined as a piece of writing or other work that has been copied from someone else and is presented as being your own work. If a student is found to have cheated in any way, they will automatically receive a zero for the work and will face the disciplinary consequences outlined in the student handbook.

### Classroom Expectations:

We will all work to make this classroom a positive learning environment. In order to achieve this goal, I expect all students to:

- Be respectful of your teacher, fellow students, and property.
- Come to class on time and prepared with the proper materials; leave cell phones, book bags and coats in your lockers.
- Take notes during class, complete assignments on time, and come prepared for exams.
- Come see me if you need help, and don't be afraid to ask questions.
- Be in your seat when the bell rings and do not line up at the door when class is almost over- you will not be dismissed until I dismiss you.
- Follow all school rules within the classroom.
- Behave in a non-disruptive manner. I will not tolerate any student disrupting my teaching or the learning of others.
- Treat substitute teachers with respect. Any student who is disruptive for a substitute teacher will be dealt with severely, in accordance with the disciplinary measures detailed in the student handbook.
- Take responsibility for your actions and words.

### Student Success:

To be successful in this class, it is imperative that you come to class prepared, take notes and participate in class discussions, complete all assignments on time, and ask for help if you need it. Your notes and assignments are valuable resources for test preparation, so it is important that you save all course materials and use them to review for exams. In addition, success depends upon maintaining a positive classroom environment. If you follow the expectations that have been outlined for you in this syllabus and the student handbook, you should have a successful semester in this class!

### Contact Information:

At anytime during the semester, you may contact me in one of the following ways:

#### Phone:

Carterville High School: (618) 985-2940, extension 219

#### Email:

savery@cartervillelions.com

I check my voicemail and email daily, unless something unforeseen happens, and I will get back to you in a timely manner. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, need help, or have any matter that you would like to discuss with me. I feel that open communication between students, parents, and teachers facilitates the best possible learning outcome.

## Classroom Rules

- 1.) Do not enter the classroom and ask to go to the bathroom, get a drink, or go to your locker. Take care of that before you enter the classroom. You will get three bathroom passes per semester, and you must have YOUR planner for me to sign as your pass to leave the room.
- 2.) Do not ask me for a pen or pencil just before or after we have started notes. If you wish to buy a pencil, ask me before class begins.
- 3.) Do not use this class period to work on homework for other classes or read books or magazines. If I see such behavior, I will tear up and discard the assignment or confiscate the book or magazine. Once the lesson is over and you have completed the work for my class, then any spare time may be used on work for other classes.
- 4.) Remain in your seat after the lesson is finished and work quietly. If you finish your work, remain in your seat and work on something else quietly.
- 5.) Do not ask me to go to your locker unless the lesson is over and you have completed all of your work. You must show me your completed work upon asking.
- 6.) **Do not interrupt me** during the lesson or when I am helping someone **unless it's important or you have a question pertaining to the lesson.**
- 7.) Please respect my personal space and belongings. Do not get into my cabinet, take anything off of my desk, or use my supplies without permission.
- 8.) Do not open a window or adjust the air conditioning without my permission.
- 9.) Any purses or bags must be placed under your desk for the duration of class. If caught with a cell phone in class, you forfeit your right to carry a purse or a bag or wear a jacket or hoodie in my class.