

Introduction to Physics: Course Syllabus

Ms. Avery Room 116

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** (has sin, cos, and tan buttons on it)

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 cumulative 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.

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.
- 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.
- 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:

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

Email:

savery@cartersvillelions.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.