Welcome to Physics
Course Syllabus
2017-2018

Instructor: Mrs. Hall        Email: thall@ccusd93.org
Phone: 480-575-2583        Room #: 832

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 2:10 – 2:45 PM or by appointment. NOTE: CSHS requirement meetings will take precedent.

Course Description: The objective of this physics course is to provide students with an introduction to the world of physics on a conceptual level. Physics is happening all around us, and physics concepts form the basis of much science and engineering. Even if you do not expect to work as a scientist or engineer, you will find out that physics applies directly to many diverse fields such as sports and law enforcement. The Scottsdale police department even employs a physicist to analyze car accidents, and he often visits us as a guest speaker.

The main topics we will be covering this year are: Motion, Forces, Momentum, Work, Power, Energy, Waves (including sound and light), and Electricity.

Class work includes reading, writing, calculations, discussions, lab activities, and presentations. I have high expectations for everyone in this class, and I am here to help you succeed. The only way that you will not succeed in this class is if you do not put forth your best effort.

Is there a lot of math? Algebraic, graphing, and geometric relationships are modeled and reinforced throughout classroom instruction and practice. Taking physics is a good way to improve your math skills! Problem solving will be modeled and reinforced. Students will be given ample opportunities in class to work collaboratively and independently on their problems.

Additional Help and Make-Up Hours: I am here to help you. If there are changes to my office hours they will be posted on the front board at the beginning of the week. Once you have checked the hours of availability, it is helpful to make an appointment with the teacher so the materials will be ready for you when you come in. Please come to office hours prepared with materials and questions. You may also attend other physics teachers’ office hours in the event that I am unavailable.

Students are encouraged to make use of the excellent website, www.physicsclassroom.com. This website does a superb job supporting the content covered in this class, and we will use many of their learning activities.
Grade Categories and Percentages: Grades will be calculated with a weighted system.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classwork/Labs</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessments</td>
<td>45%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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Grading Scale:

- 100% to 90% = A
- 89% to 80% = B
- 79% to 70% = C
- 69% to 60% = D
- Below 60% = F

Required Course Materials

- 3-Subject College Ruled Spiral Notebook
- Scientific Calculator
- Pencils
- Graph paper (optional)
- Red Pen for grading
- Blue or Black Pens
- Ruler

Assessments: Weekly quizzes are given to assess learning on a formative basis. These quizzes are generally given on Friday and will be announced. The quizzes may be over any warm-ups, classwork, lab work, or homework we have done during the past week(s). The best way to succeed on any assessment is to actively participate in class, do the classwork, and do the homework. Additionally, reviewing the class materials and notes for 10-15 minutes a day will greatly improve your understanding and retention of concepts! In addition to quizzes, exams are administered at the end of major chapters/units. These exams are announced in advance and generally consist of multiple choice and free response questions. The exams are oriented towards problem solving and critical thinking, so in order to succeed a student must firmly grasp and be able to apply information and concepts learned in class. Exams are cumulative and any previously covered material may be included and necessary. Students are encouraged to remember learned information.

Participation: The student is expected to come to class prepared (bring a calculator) and to participate in all activities (lectures, labs, etc). You are expected to focus on learning physics rather than texting friends. I will take away participation points if you are not fully engaged in learning. On a more positive note, students that go above and beyond to facilitate learning can earn extra participation points.

School Absence Policy

Students are responsible for contacting teachers to complete missed work. Parents can e-mail teachers to request homework to pick up during a student’s absence. For every day of excused absence, a student has two days to make up homework, classwork, quizzes, and tests (parents have 24 hours to contact the school to excuse the absence). Work, including tests/quizzes, previously assigned with a due date during an absence is due on the first day of his/her return to school (including suspension dates). Be advised that each department, which assigns extended projects, has specific deadline dates. All make up work from an excused absence is eligible to receive full credit if completed and turned in within the 2 day window. Some courses such as Honors, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and Dual Enrollment courses have numerous long-term projects or portfolios, which may have absolute deadlines. Students will be advised of these project/portfolio deadlines in the course syllabus or on grading outlines and will be expected to turn in projects/portfolios prior to the designated date for credit regardless of days absent. Assignments, tests, quizzes not completed within the 2 day window will receive a zero. (Ref: Board Policy JH-R)
**Tardiness:** Tardiness to class may affect learning. You are tardy if you are not in your assigned seat at the bell. The potential consequences for tardiness or for not being in your seat at the bell are a teacher detention, parent contact, or referral to administration.

**Classwork/Homework:** It is essential that students are actively participating and learning during class time. Class work may be collected at the end of the period. Homework assignments are designed to give students practice with concepts taught in class and to prepare for upcoming assessments. Students are expected to genuinely attempt every homework problem and show legible, written evidence of this. Students with questions about the homework should plan to attend office hours, consult a classmate, or consult the textbook or internet for additional help. Homework will be checked for completeness and scored accordingly.

**Quality and Timeliness of Work:** Students are expected to complete each assignment neatly and to the best of their ability. Your assignments are due at the beginning of class, no credit will be given for late work.

**Laboratory work and Projects:** Physics is a lab intensive course. Labs are scheduled nearly every week. Laboratory work is used to visualize the concept and assist in instruction. Laboratory work will be collected in a timely manner. Bring materials to class. Dress appropriately for labs. There will be some long-term and internet-based assignments/projects. Ample time will be given to complete these assignments, so the due date is firm. Be sure to complete each assignment well before the due date to avoid any unexpected problems (illness, computer problems, etc). If a serious problem arises during the course of the assignment, students are expected to communicate with their instructor immediately so that the problem can be remedied well before the due date. Remember that computers are readily available in the school library and at other local libraries. Being absent on the due date will not permit extra time.

**Extra Credit:** It is my general policy not to give individualized extra credit assignments. However, class-wide opportunities to earn bonus points will be available from time to time. To do well in this course, students must work hard, turn in good quality work on time, be organized, and learn the content.

**Academic Misconduct District Policy JK-R**
A student may be subject to disciplinary action when the student engages in any of the following forms of academic misconduct:

- **Lateness** - For missing or leaving school or class without permission or excuse.
- **Cheating** - Including but not limited to copying, using unauthorized help sheets and the like, illegally obtaining tests in advance, substituting for a test-taker, and other forms of unauthorized collusion.
- **Plagiarism** - Representation of the ideas or work of another person as his/her own.
- **Collusion** - Supporting malpractice by another student as in allowing one’s work to be copied or submitted for assessment by another.
- **Duplication of work** - Presentation of the same work for different assessment components and/or requirements.
- **Fabrication of Data** - Manufacturing data for a table, survey, or other such requirement.
- **Any behavior that gains an unfair advantage** for a student and/or affects the results of another student.
Cactus Shadows High School takes academic dishonesty seriously. Any violation of this policy will result in a zero for the assignment/assessment for a first offense, a zero for the assignment/assessment and short term suspension for a second offense and a loss of credit for the semester course (.5) and short term suspension for a third offense.

Students who share assignment/assessment information with other students via pictures, paper or electronics will receive a zero on the assignment/assessment and a short term to long term suspension (prior academic misconduct referrals from any other school or CCUSD grade level will be considered).

**Students Leaving Class:** Passes will not be given the first ten minutes or the last ten minutes of the class period and students should be gone for no longer than 5 minutes. Abuse of the pass privilege may lead to the loss of this privilege. Students will receive 2 class passes each quarter. If they are not used, they will be converted to extra credit toward quarter grade. Passes will not be given to go to a locker or to get food and beverages.

**Electronic Devices:** Classrooms are now designated as ‘No Phone Zones’ except with teacher permission. All phones are expected to be housed in backpacks during class time. If I see or hear these devices you will lose participation points and/or a referral will be made.

**Behavior, Self-Discipline, and Respect:** Our goal is to maintain an effective and safe learning environment for each student. Students are expected to manage their behavior and abide by the posted classroom rules and the rules outlined in the student handbook. The science department has “zero tolerance” policy for distracting and unsafe behavior in the laboratory! Unsafe behavior will result in immediate removal from the lab, loss of points, and possibly other disciplinary action. Students are strictly prohibited from removing any materials from the physics classroom. Cactus Shadows uses the Falcon PRIDE model school wide.

**Physics**

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Please sign and return this section. Keep the syllabus in your physics binder.

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I have read all 4 pages of Mrs. Hall’s Physics syllabus and understand and accept the policies and procedures outlined therein.

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<th>Student Name (please print)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Parent(s) or Guardian(s) name(s) (please print)</td>
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