A.P. Physics 2016-2017

Apollo High School

Ms. CA Johnson

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**Congratulations!** You made a good choice when you enrolled in AP Physics if you want a college level course based on solving physics problems with a focus on passing the College Board Advanced Placement Physics Exam in May. A significant amount of homework and laboratory work will be included. Be prepared to consistently work hard during this course.

# Topics

Go to [www.apcentral.collegeboard.com](http://www.apcentral.collegeboard.com/) and find AP Physics 1 using the course home pages link. The class will follow the AP Physics 1 content and add some of the AP Physics 2 content.

# Textbook

The text for this course is *College Physics*, by Etkina, Gentile, and Van Heuvelen. It is written for a first year college physics course and uses an active learning approach to learning physics.

# Materials

You will need a scientific calculator during this class.

You will need to have at least one notebook, a supply of loose leaf paper as well as one folder or three ring binder exclusively for AP Physics.

This is a convenient way to **organize** material as it is presented to you. Together with hard work, being **organized** will certainly improve your chances of success in AP Physics!

You will be expected to have a method and a place to store your lab reports. Most labs will be turned in on loose leaf paper. Labs need to be stored together after they have been graded and returned to you. A three ring binder is one good way to store these.

*Colleges may request your lab records to make a final decision to award or not award you college credit for this course. It is important to keep lab reports neat and well organized.*

# Evaluation

You will be graded on the following categories:

20% Homework 25% Lab Activities/Team Projects 55% Exams

Grades will be determined according to the following scale:

B+ 88-89.9% C+ 78-79.9%

A 92-100% B 82-87.9% C 72-77.9% D 60-69.9%

A- 90-91.9% B- 80-81.9% C- 70-71.9% F Below 60%

# Homework Problems

*ALL HOMEWORK PROBLEMS ARE TO BE COMPLETED ON LOOSE LEAF PAPER!*  Please label each assignment and use plenty of space for each problem. Problems should be written completely and neatly. Show each step clearly and consistently use units with all numerical values. Questions will be taken on homework assignments in class before they are due. Assignments are due at the beginning of class. ***Late Assignments will not be accepted!***

# Laboratory Activities

These are the core of understanding physics. They are conducted in groups of 2-4 people with each person often completing their own written lab report. Working cooperatively together is critical to the success of everyone in the class. Occasionally, labs may be graded as a group…one lab write up will be graded and all group members will receive the same score. Missed laboratory activities must be made up within **one** week of the student's return to school.

Lab reports are to be concise and organized. Most lab reports will be written in a formal style according to guidelines we will work through together.

Late Lab Reports: One day late = 2 points deducted

> One day late = 1 point will be deducted for each additional day the report is late

**Note:** No more than 10 points will be deducted.

# Exams

The exams in AP Physics will cover each major unit consisting of two or more chapters. Exams are intended to model the AP exam so they will be a combination of multiple choice questions and free response problems. These are to be used to help assure that you have mastered the material. *Exams may also contain review material from previous units*. Exams will be one extended class period in length. Missed exams must be made up within **one** week of the original exam date. The make-up exam will contain more difficult questions and problems.

Test Corrections: Students will be allowed to “redo” the exam for ½ of the points added to their original test score. Test corrections will be completed on a separate piece of paper and every correction made must include a brief explanation. The test corrections will be due within 3-4 days after the test is returned to the students. In addition to the test corrections, the original test must be resubmitted.

# The College Board AP Physics 1 Exam

*It is expected that you will take the AP Physics 1 exam in May of 2017. If you choose to not take this exam, you are required to take a final cumulative exam during regular class time. The final cumulative exam will be included as part of your third trimester grade.*

**ABSENCES**

***Do not schedule any appointments, internships, or other activities during this class.***

Excused Absence: 1. Any labs or homework due during an excused absence is due the first day the student returns to school unless there are extremely extenuating circumstances.

2. Any lab activity missed due to an excused absence must be made up within one week.

3. Any exam missed due to an excused absence must be made up within one week to the original exam date. The make-up exam will contain more difficult questions and problems.

Unexcused Absence: 1. Any labs missed during an unexcused absence cannot be made up.

2. Homework due during an unexcused absence will receive no credit.

3. Any exam missed due to an unexcused absence cannot be made up.

We need to approach this course as a team. Our goal is to help each person to become a confident physics problem solver and thinker. Working as a team we can achieve great success!