

Honors Physics, 2018-2019

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Office Hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays 2:30pm - 3:15pm

Class Overview

Welcome to honors physics! I am very happy to have you in this class. The primary goal of this class is **learning**. Each policy and guideline has been constructed in a way that will promote developing problem solving skills rather than rote memorization. In this class we will be working through physics topics such as motion, energy, and waves. Our goal is to work through these topics in such a way that you not only have fun and learn a lot about physics, but also become better able to recognize patterns, think creatively to solve problems, analyze data, manipulate equations, and successfully convey your ideas in a way that is appropriate in an academic and professional setting. In doing so, you will be much better prepared for not only college, but also a future career whether or not you go into science and engineering.

Required Materials

In order to succeed and be prepared in this class you will need:

- 1 Spiral Notebook for taking notes
- School Binder with section devoted to this class
- School Planner- we will be writing in these every day
- Pencil/pen
- Highlighters
- Colored Pencils
- Calculator (The calculator will need to at least be capable of performing trigonometric: sin, cos, tan functions)

We will, at times, be using a textbook in class for reference and reading. Textbooks will also be available to check out upon request

**If you have an issue obtaining any of the required or recommended supplies please don't hesitate to come speak with me after class or after school*

Grading

The course breakdown and grading scale is as follows:

Exams	40%
Homework	25%
Labs	25%
Quizzes	5 %
Participation	5%

Grading Scale:

A	--	93 – 100	C+	--	77 – 79.9	D-	--	60 – 62.9
A-	--	90 – 92.9	C	--	73 – 76.9	F	--	<60
B+	--	87 – 89.9	C-	--	70 – 72.9			
B	--	83 – 86.9	D+	--	67 – 69.9			
B-	--	80 – 82.9	D	--	63 – 66.9			

Late Work Policy:

No penalty will be applied to late work. The material for the year will be broken down into units, and at the end of each unit there will be a unit exam. **All assignments, labs, and quizzes from a particular unit will be due the day of the unit exam.** Any work turned in past this day **WILL NOT** be accepted. Each of these cutoff dates/unit exams will be announced at least one week in advance. This cutoff date is final, and no exceptions will be allowed. Since you have so much time to turn in late work, no late work past the cutoff date will be accepted (even in the cases of absences, sickness...etc).

Exams

Exams will be administered after each unit, or about every 1-2 month(s). Each student will be allowed to retake all exams (with the exception of the final exam) as many times as they'd like and I will keep the highest score. The purpose of this is to give you as many opportunities as required to LEARN the material. Retake exams will NOT be identical to the originals. The late work policy applies similarly to the retaken exams. For example, after students initially take Exam 1, they will have until the day of Exam 2 to retake Exam 1. After that day, the grade for Exam 1 is final and cannot be changed under any circumstance. If a student wishes to retake an exam, they must give at least 1 week's notice before the nearest cutoff date. If a student plans to retake an exam, they must schedule a time *outside of class* in order to do so. You can make an appointment to retake exams either before or after school.

Homework

Homework will typically be assigned on a weekly basis. Unless otherwise stated, each assignment will be "due" the following meeting day for the class. However, as stated earlier the final date to turn in assignments will be the day of the unit exam. Check CANVAS often, as all due dates and assignments will be posted there. Some assignments will be submitted on paper, and some will be submitted online.

Labs

This is a hands-on class and we will be doing a lot of group, partner, and individual lab work. Collaboration and the ability to work well with others is an important life skill so all students will be expected to fully participate. Any horseplay or failure to follow directions during labs will result in an automatic "0" on the lab, and this grade cannot be made up.

Quizzes

Quizzes will be periodically assigned to check for understanding and mastery of material. These quizzes will typically be administered through CANVAS, but some may also be given in class. You will be able to retake any quiz as many times as possible until the cutoff date for that unit, and I will keep the highest score. These quizzes will be good ways to measure your understanding of new material, as well as prepare for exams, so it is highly recommended that you work through all problems on a separate paper and keep track of any questions that you have.

Participation

When students enter the class each day, there will be a warm up problem, question, or activity for them to complete. It is expected that upon entering class students take out a notebook and begin quietly working on the activity. Students will also be required to take out their school planners and document the daily agenda/question and any upcoming assignments. If the student works on these tasks, and participates respectfully in all class activities they will receive one participation point for the day. Because we are on a block schedule, if a student chooses to be disrespectful and/or not participate for one day, and that class is only meeting two times that week the student's participation grade for that week would become 1/2, or 50%, so it's important that each student comes to class with a positive attitude and a readiness to learn and participate every single day.

Class Website

CANVAS will be used to put tentative "due dates" for assignments and labs, copies of all assignments, lectures, and labs. Dates for exams and copies of lecture notes and assignments will also be posted here. If you are absent from class, it will be YOUR responsibility to find out what you missed by checking the class website and getting caught up on any notes missed. There will be extra hard copies of assignments/labs in class.

Study Groups

Each Tuesday and Thursday after school from 2:45 pm-3:15 pm I will be available for outside help/tutoring. This time will also be used if you are absent and need to make up a lab, retake an exam, or work in study groups. It is HIGHLY recommended that you, and other students in the class come to these sessions and work through the homework assignments as a group. In this setting you will not only finish the assignments faster, but will also learn more by working in a group.

Class Policies and Expectations

Respect: You must show respect at all times in the classroom, not only to me but also to your fellow students. Absolutely no hate speech, or words that put down another's race, religion, lifestyle, gender...etc will be tolerated.

Cell phones: Unless receiving specific instruction to use in class (which will happen frequently for video analysis, calculators, research...etc) cell phones must be put away and on silent. If your phone is out for any reason without permission I will confiscate it and you may pick it up after class.

Cheating: Any form of cheating, on any assignment, class activity, or lab is academic dishonesty and will result in an automatic F on the assignment/lab/quiz/exam and cannot be made up.

Plagiarism: All work you submit in this class must be entirely your own. Students will be held to high standards of academic integrity as outlined in the school handbook and student planner. Attempting to steal another person's work or ideas and pretend they're your own is not allowed, is illegal, and will result in an automatic failing grade in the class.

Planners: Planners are an excellent tool to help with organization and time management. Therefore, you will be required to bring your planner to class each day, and will be expected to record daily agendas and upcoming assignments in it. I will periodically be checking these for participation points. Failure to have your planner, or failure to have it updated and filled out will result in a loss of participation points for the day.

Non-Discrimination Statement: No district employee or student shall be subjected to discrimination in employment or any district program or activity on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status. The district is committed to providing equal access and equal opportunity in its programs, services and employment including its policies, complaint processes, program accessibility, district facility use, accommodations and other Equal Employment Opportunity matters. The district also provides equal access to district facilities for all youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United States Code, including scouting groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries and complaints regarding unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation: Tina Hatch, Compliance and Investigations, 440 East 100 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111, (801) 578-8388. You may also contact the Office for Civil Rights, Denver, CO, (303) 844-5695.

Note to Parents/Guardians:

Please email me with questions, or come by to speak with me during office hours or by appointment with any questions or concerns you may have. By signing below, you are agreeing to abide by all rules put forth in this disclosure.

Student Name: _____ Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

What do you hope to get out of this class? Why are you taking honors physics?

What is something you'd like me to know about you? For example, do you have a favorite after school activity or are you a part of any East High team or club? Do you work in addition to being a student?
