

COURSE PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

Ms. Stevens

Physics

Course Overview: This course is designed to present a variety of scientific concepts in the field of Physics. The course is very mathematically orientated, and will use a quantitative as well as a qualitative approach. It will integrate classroom presentations with hands-on laboratory activities.

In the first subterm we will focus on:

- Vectors / Vector Math
- Laws of Motion / Newton's Laws
- Work, Energy, Momentum
- Circular Motion, Gravity, Astronomy
- Rotation
- Waves, Sound

In the second subterm we will focus on:

- Electric Fields, Potentials
- D.C. Circuits, Ohm's Law
- Magnetism
- Light, Color, Reflection, Refraction
- Wave Optics
- Modern Physics

Grading Policy: Grades are based on the percentage of points earned on tests, quizzes, labs, homework, and class work. Grades will be assigned according to the following scale.

98 - 100	A+	77 - 78	C+
93 - 97	A	73 - 76	C
89 - 92	A-	69 - 72	C-
87 - 88	B+	66 - 68	D+
83 - 86	B	61 - 65	D
79 - 82	B-	0 - 60	F

Test & Quizzes - 45%; Labs - 20%; Final - 15%; Homework & Class work - 15%; Participation - 5%
Grades can be viewed on <http://zangle.conejo.k12.ca.us>

Homework: Most homework is assigned online using the "WebAssign" program (webassign.net). Typically, assignments will be given in blocks of one week at a time. Computers with Internet access are available in class, the library, as well as various other locations around campus. Questions on the homework will be addressed most days in class. A ten-dollar lab fee will be charged for this class. This covers the cost of the "webAssign" program. For students that cannot afford the fee, or who have "serious philosophical objections" to paying the fee, arrangements will be made. See me.

Students should feel free to discuss problem-solving strategies with each other, however I ask that you do not discuss actual numerical solutions. Copying another student's homework is cheating and no credit will be given.

Late work will only be accepted with an available late pass. Late passes do not apply to large projects and webassign. (Excused absences are a special case. See Below)

Absences and Make Up Work: A prolonged absence, or repeated absences can greatly affect your level of learning in this course and consequently your grade. In the event of an absence, it is your responsibility to find out what was missed and arrange to make it up. You will be given the number of days you were absent to make up the work and turn it in. If you are absent on the day homework is due, with an excused absence, it may be turned in the day you return to school. It is your responsibility to turn it in, I won't ask for it.

Class Web Page: A Class web page will be maintained which will contain class handouts, homework assignments, links to grades, etc. A daily class calendar is also available. (www.nphsscience.com)

Behavior Guidelines:

- When the tardy bell rings, all students should be in their seats with their homework and stampsheet out working on the bellwork.
- Stay in your seat and on task until the dismissal bell rings unless otherwise directed by your teacher. Remember, Ms. Stevens dismisses you, not the bell.
- You must have an available restroom pass in order to leave the classroom for any reason. (Exceptions: life threatening emergencies)
- Summary of classroom rules: RESPECT yourself, others, and the area. Even minor infractions (such as talking during lecture) will result in some form of disciplinary action after no more than two warnings have been given.

Electronics: Cell phones will not be tolerated. Please turn it off and put it away. Otherwise, it is mine and you can pick it up at the end of the school day. Music on iPods and other MP3 players (except cell phones) can be used during individual work, but not during labs, notes or tests.

Academic Honesty: Due to the nature of the work in this class, you will be asked to work collaboratively as well as individually; however, collaborating does not mean cheating or allowing someone else to do your work (or thinking). Acceptable collaboration includes, for example, sharing data with lab partners or verbally discussing/explaining concepts. Unacceptable collaboration includes sharing the narrative portions of lab write-ups, including, but not limited to, the abstract, procedure, theory, and conclusion, where I expect to find your individual thinking expressed in your own words. I will generally outline acceptable and unacceptable types of collaboration specifically as assignments are presented. If at any time, directions are unclear about the limits of acceptable collaboration, it is your responsibility to ask for clarification. If you find yourself unable to at anytime verify what is acceptable collaboration on any assignment, then work individually.

Help: If you need help, or fear you are falling behind talk to me. I can help you. I am generally here everyday after school. Either let me know you are coming or just show up.

Office Hours: 2:05 - 3:15, Room C-6	Phone: 498 3676 ext 1206	Email: mstevens@conejo.k12.ca.us
Science Dept Website: www.nphsscience.com	Class Website: www.nphsscience.com/Stevens/index.html	