



AP Physics I Syllabus 2020-2021

Instructor: Angie L. Culberson-Espinosa

Phone: 580-5300 ext. 1345

Email: aculberson-espinosa@sharylandisd.org

Room: 402

Conference Period: 2nd Block

Tutoring: Tue & Thur 7:30-8:00 AM

Course Description: This is a 1st year physics AP course and will include the topics of kinematics, forces, gravitation, impulse-momentum, energy, torque, angular momentum, electricity, and mechanical waves.

Course Information: This is an algebra-based course and use of math is required. The student must have pencils or pens, a scientific calculator, and lab notebook. Students have the opportunity to meet the learning objectives in a variety of ways and to apply their knowledge to real world experiences and societal issues. Instructional time involves a variety of student-centered activities. Students have the opportunity to work cooperatively to solve challenging problems and to present their solutions to the class. Throughout the year, connections to the world are explored in discussions, group projects, and class demonstrations. Laboratory work, described below, offers frequent opportunities to work cooperatively, explore ideas, and present information. Outside of class students read the assigned text and complete homework assignments that support and reinforce each lesson as well as what has been learned in the laboratory setting. Unit exams take place at the end of each block of instruction. Students also attend tutorial sessions where they can receive individual assistance from the instructor and work with their peers.

Students spend 25% of the instructional time engaged in laboratory work. Experiments designed by the instructor are used to demonstrate procedural guidelines and to learn how to use specific laboratory equipment. The majority of labs are inquiry-based where students are given an objective and a set of materials. They are tasked with designing a procedure and collecting data to determine specific quantities, determine the relationship between variables, and/or to derive fundamental physics equations. Laboratory design, experimentation, data gathering, data presentation, analysis, drawing conclusions, and experimental error analysis are elements in these lab activities.

Laboratory work is recorded in a laboratory notebook, and students will have opportunities to present their laboratory work to their peers. All aspects of the laboratory work including any pre-lab work, question/hypothesis, experimental procedure, data, analysis, graphs, conclusion, and error analysis will be recorded. Additional information as indicated in the following pages will also be included in the lab notebook. At the end of completing the lab work for the investigations that are labeled “Guided- Inquiry,” the students will present their method, data and conclusions on whiteboards. The class will then engage in peer critique of each group’s results, and discuss strategies

Textbook and Resources: OpenStax College Physics, Serway & Faughn and LTF Labs, science/technology-based videos and documentaries, internet, scientific periodicals, newspapers, and other relevant media.

Instructional Procedures and Support: The teacher will be available for tutoring. It is the student’s responsibility to ask for help when needed and for making the required transportation arrangements. Retesting will be available in accordance with SISD High School Grading Policies.

Classroom Management Procedures: District Policy Will Be Enforced!

Classroom Expectations:

As per district policy, major exams/assignments will account for 60% of the student's grade. Quizzes and home/class work will account for the remaining 40%.

Statement for Academic Dishonesty

Academic integrity is fundamental to the activities and principles of our school. No student shall cheat or copy the work of another. Plagiarism, the use of another person's original ideas or writing as one's own without giving credit to the true author, will be considered cheating, and the student will be subject to academic discipline that may include loss of credit for the work in question.

Course Schedule:

Week	Topic(s)	Required Reading
Week 1	Review Week: Sig Figs, Accuracy Precision, Equation Solving, Rounding, Scientific Notation, and Scales.	Chapter 1
Week 2	Construct/Interpret graphs; calculate displacement, velocity and acceleration in 1-Dimension.	Chapter 2
Week 3	Scalar vs. Vector; Calculate displacement, velocity and acceleration in 2-Dimensions.	Chapter 3
Week 4	Balanced Forces: Newton's 1 st & 3 rd Laws	Chapter 4,5
Week 5	Unbalanced forces: Newton's 2nd Law	Chapter 4, 5
Week 6	Dynamics of Circular Motion; Gravitation	Chapter 6
Week 7	Torque & Rotational Inertia	Ch. 9,10
Week 8	Work, Energy, & Power	Ch. 7
Week 9	Torque & Statics/ Review for Semester Exam	Ch. 9
Week 10	Linear Momentum & Impulse	Ch. 8
Week 11	Angular Momentum & Impulse	Ch.10
Week 12	Simple Harmonic Motion & Oscillation	Ch. 16
Week 13	Mechanical Waves	Ch. 16
Week 14	Sound	Ch. 17
Week 15	Electricity	Ch. 18, 19, 20, 21
Week 16	Review for AP Exam	

***Be sure to get an electronic copy of textbook**