

Foundations of Physics

Laux

In Freshman Physics, you will be introduced to the formal study of science in the context of studying changes in the physical world around you. During this course, you will design experiments, collect and analyze data and then present conclusions based on this analysis. The topics discussed in this course may include: Energy, Electricity, Uniform Motion, Uniformly Accelerated Motion, Newton's Laws, Circular Motion, Electrostatics and Waves.

I believe each student can learn and be successful in this class. I will use all means at my disposal to provide each student with opportunities to learn and be successful. However, You are fully responsible for your learning. You are expected to be actively engaged in classroom activities and while completing homework. Asking questions and offering constructive ideas during discussions are imperative.

Because this is a lab course, behavioral expectations change with the nature of the classroom activity. You are **always** expected to be cooperative to create a positive learning environment and to give your best efforts to the course activities.

ABOUT LAB SAFETY: Laboratory safety is always a serious issue. Any student found to be conducting him/herself in a manner, which threatens the safety of him/herself or others or equipment, will be removed from the lab and will be awarded a grade of "0", without recourse.

Determining grades: Each quarter, your grade will be determined by four different categories of points. Each category is worth a different percentage of your quarter grade. Do not ask to see your grade during class. Grades may be available through the PowerSchool. If you need to see about your grade, please come before or after class.

You should keep all returned papers and tests in your binder so that you always have some idea of how you are doing. This binder will be your text and study guide throughout the year. Grade reports will be given out no less than four times per semester. Parents may request that grade reports be mailed home or sent home electronically.

Daily Work (10%) These points include in-class and homework assignments. Students will be allowed to turn in 2 daily assignments late per quarter. Late Assignments turned in more than 2 days past the due date will receive no credit. After 1 late assignment, no additional late work will receive credit. Please note that participation during class requires you to be in class every day, on time, and with all required materials.

Quizzes (20%) Quizzes generally assess a smaller amount of material than tests. Some quizzes will take just a few minutes while others may take a whole period.

Labs (30%) This grade will reflect the effort put into doing labs as well as the understanding of the concept that you demonstrate in both oral and written form. All labs must be submitted on time.

Tests (40%) Generally, each test weighs equally—the percentage will be recorded for each test. Generally, there are 1-3 tests per quarter.

Overall Grades: Each quarter in a semester is worth 40% of the semester grade. There will be a final exam each semester worth the remaining 20% of the semester grade.

A+	98 - 100%	A	93 < 98%	A-	90 < 93%
B+	88 < 90%	B	83 < 88%	B-	80 < 83%
C+	78 < 80%	C	73 < 78%	C-	70 < 73%
D+	68 < 70%	D	63 < 68%	D-	60 < 63%

*Final grades below 60% will earn no credit for the course.

General Class Rules:

- 1) Listen to those who are speaking.
- 2) Give your all to complete all tasks posed to you.

Guiding Principle: Ensure that everything you do will make a positive impact on those around you.

Absences and make up work: YOU are responsible for contacting me about missed assignments on the day you return. Please understand that class time may not be used to go over missing work. *Schedule* a time to see me before or after class. Any unexcused absences will result in a grade of 0 for any work due or completed on the day of the absence. Additional information may be available at the class website, <http://www.claytonschools.net//Domain/246>

Getting Help: You can get help from many resources: class notes, classmates, the class website and teachers. I encourage you to come see me (or other teachers) for help. I am available most days before school, after your “lab” period, other times throughout the day and after school by appointment. The best way for parents to contact me is via e-mail at robertlaux@claytonschools.net (email is checked daily).

Tardiness: Students must be in class to benefit from it. If students are tardy, any homework that is collected during the time that you were not in class becomes late. If a student has 3 or more tardies in a quarter, after school detentions must be served.

Distractions: Cell phones, iPods, graphing calculators, etc. are wonderful pieces of technology that should not be used during class unless directed to by the teacher. All devices should be turned off prior to class and remain off throughout class. Unapproved use of technological devices will result in confiscation.

Required Equipment: Each day, you should bring with you to class:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 3-Ring Binder, 1½”+ for this class only | calculator |
| 3-Ring pencil case | 2 or more pencils with erasers |
| 3-Ring metric ruler | colored pencils (with erasers –optional) |
| graph paper | 4 dry erase markers – chisel tip |
| lined paper | USB drive |
| CHS planner | |

Policies discussed in this document are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

I have read the course outline with my parent/child.

Student Signature _____

Date _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____

Parent email: _____ Parent phone #: _____