

Welcome to Honors Physics A!

Class Syllabus

Keep this in your binder!

Teacher: Mr. Patrick Hoover

Room: B108

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Overview

Science is pursued because scientists have an insatiable compulsion to look at natural phenomena and ask WHY they happen the way they do. I hope that physics will help you to answer some of your own WHY questions and (maybe more importantly) inspire you to ask new questions you may not have pondered before...

Physics will be a new thinking experience for you. During this year we will cover many physical concepts—including an understanding of physics concepts and the methods of science – which are essential to many aspects of life in our modern society. In this pursuit, honors physics emphasizes mathematical applications and has a pace that can be intensive. Be prepared!

Classroom Environment

Classroom Rules:

My goal is for you to have a great physics experience and learn a lot. To that end, I expect that you will treat me, your classmates, and yourself respectfully. This classroom is a place for all students to have the opportunity to learn. Any attitude or behavior that shows disrespect towards any member of the class will not be tolerated. My list of classroom rules is simple and easy to remember:

1. Be respectful of yourself and others.
2. Come to class ready to learn.
3. Always do your best.
4. Think safety first.

Food: You should not have food in class. Bottled water is okay in a sealed container.

Electronic Devices:

Cell phones and other electronic devices can be incredibly useful tools. However, they can also be a great source of distraction. Because of this cell phones **are not permitted to be out during class** unless their use has been previously approved by me for educational purposes

Materials: All students are expected to come prepared for class each and every day. Generally you will need to bring the following items to class:

- **Pencil** (suggested) or a **Pen** with blue or black ink.
- **Textbook:** College Physics, 6th Ed., Serway and Faughn.
- **Calculator** (graphing calculators can be used if you have one)
- **Class Binder** which contains the following:
 - This syllabus
 - All classwork, homework, and returned assignments, in date order.
 - Notes Section -- Loose-leaf paper for taking notes or a separate notebook. I recommend keeping your notes in date order of when they were taken
 - Your binder is very important. It will keep you organized and help insure your overall success. Students are required to keep this binder up-to-date with ALL work done in class.

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Attendance:

- It is expected that students attend class every day. If a student is absent he/she will have one day to make up the assignment for each day of absence. It is your responsibility to find out what was missed during class. Additional copies of handouts/worksheets will be available. There is no excuse for not knowing what we did in class or not getting copies of the materials. It is a good idea to swap phone numbers with other students in the class so you can find out what you missed if you are out.
- **On being tardy:** Any student that arrives after the bell rings is tardy. Please keep in mind that a tardy is defined as entering the classroom after the bell has rung but before the first 10 minutes of class have elapsed. If a student is more than 10 minutes late they will be marked absent.

Bathroom passes: Students are expected to use the restroom during their 8-min passing time.

General Information

Academic Integrity:

DO YOUR OWN WORK! It is by actively engaging with the ideas and concepts that we are trying to learn that makes learning possible. If you don't do your own work, you are only harming yourself. **Cheating will result in a ZERO on the assignment and further steps may be taken.** The assistant principal will be notified.

Homework:

- Daily homework may be graded for correctness or completeness and effort, depending on the assignment. Homework is expected to be complete at the beginning of the class on the day it is due or it is considered **late**.
- If you are absent when an assignment is due you must turn in the work (with the word **ABSENT** and the **DATE OF ABSENCE** written at the top of the assignment) on the day you return.
- Homework will be handed back the same day it is due so that we can go over it. When we go over homework in class corrections need to be made in a different color than the original work. **Hold on to all homework assignments** for each chapter as they will be **recollected** the day of a test or quiz to be entered into the gradebook.
- Late work will NOT be accepted.

Lab Work:

- When working in the lab, **safety is the most important thing**. You will be expected to follow all lab procedures and instructions. Lab work will usually be completed either with a partner or with a group. However, your conclusions will be done independently (see the Lab Statement below).
- **Make-Up Labs:** Do not miss labs! They will help you understand physics. If you miss a lab you will be expected to make it up within one week. Please see me to arrange a time to do the lab. If for some reason the opportunity for a lab make-up isn't possible you may be given an alternative assignment.

SEAHOLM SCIENCE DEPARTMENT LABORATORY REPORT STATEMENT Issued 11/01/04

When completing laboratory reports, the entire laboratory report must be completed in your own words and you must perform your own calculations. The data will be the same as your partner(s), but it is your responsibility to create your own data chart and to write all parts of the laboratory report independently. If laboratory reports are copied or are too similar to your partner's, a zero for the laboratory will be given to all parties involved and Honor Code/Academic misconduct will be filed for all parties involved. This will hold true for all science classes unless an individual teacher for a specified laboratory indicates that a certain part or parts of a laboratory may be shared.

Quizzes and Tests:

- Tests will be announced in advance. If you are absent the day of a quiz or test you must see me on the day you return to arrange a time to take it (in the testing center, during X-block, or after school). You must take the quiz or test within 1 week of returning to school or you will receive a 0 on it. Make up tests may be an alternate form of the one taken by the class.
- You should expect to have a quiz at least once a week.

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Grading

You will be graded on the scale below based on total possible points earned from tests, quizzes, lab reports, notebooks, homework, and classroom assignments. There will be a heavy emphasis on labs, projects and other creative investigations. Be prepared at all times for this intensive lab course and budget your time!

Grading Scale for Marking Period Grade: I will be using the grading scale below to calculate your grade:

<u>PERCENTAGE</u>	<u>GRADE</u>				
100 - 93 %	A	82-80%	B-	69 - 67%	D+
92-90%	A-	79-77%	C+	66 - 63%	D
89 -87%	B+	76 - 73%	C	62 - 60%	D-
86 - 83%	B	72 - 70%	C-	59% or less	E

Your final trimester grade will be determined by the following:

- Marking Period Grade \approx 80%
- Final Exam \approx 20%

Extra Help: I want you to be successful in this class and am here to help. If you need extra help outside of class do not hesitate to contact me. I am available during Tuesday X-block and will be available after school to provide extra help from 2:50 to at least 3:15. If for some reason these times do not work for you please email me or see me before or after class and I will work with you to find a time that does work. Email is generally the quickest way to get in contact with me.

I look forward to a great Trimester of Honors Physics!

Mr. Hoover

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*******RETURN THIS SHEET*******

I look forward to an excellent trimester in Honors Physics. If you need further clarification on anything in these classroom expectations, please feel free to contact me. You can email me at ph07bps@birmingham.k12.mi.us. You can keep up to date on your progress by checking PowerSchool online.

I have read the entire Honors Physics syllabus. I understand each of the expectations and agree to abide by them. I understand that by breaking a lab/classroom expectation, I can lose the privilege to remain in the classroom. This is for my safety and the safety of my classmates.

_____	_____	_____	_____
Student Name – printed	Email (optional)	Grade	Hr
_____	_____		
Student Signature	Date		

I have read the entire Honors Physics expectations with my student, and I understand and agree that he/she is to abide by these expectations.

Parent Name – printed	
_____	_____
Parent Signature	Date

Parent Contact Information

Please provide contact information below:

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Student Medical Information and Lab Safety

Please list any student allergies:

Please list any medical conditions that I as a science (laboratory) teacher should know: