

Classroom Syllabus

AP Physics B 2009-2010

Mr. Miller

Introduction: AP Physics B is a three-trimester survey physics course taught at the pre-calculus level. A primary objective of the course is preparation for the advanced placement physics examination. The curriculum is based upon the College Board recommendations. First trimester topics include classical mechanics. Second trimester topics include periodic motion, waves, sound, and fluids. Topics covered in the third trimester are heat, thermodynamics, optics, electromagnetism, and modern physics.

Textbook: Physics: Principles with Applications 6th Ed. by Giancoli

Necessary Materials: 1 ½” 3-Ring Binder
Dividers for 8 sections
Bound laboratory journal
1 packet of 3 hole punched lined paper
Scientific Calculator with trigonometric functions
Pen and pencil

Physics Notebook: Students will keep completed assignments in a 1 ½” 3-Ring Binder with separate sections. The notebook will be collected on the day of each test and counts towards a student’s homework grade.
The order of the dividers are: Notes, Warm ups, Bookwork, Worksheets, Labs, Quizzes/Tests, Projects, Notebook Paper

Homework: Students can expect 5-6 hours of homework per week. At the beginning of every new chapter, homework will be posted in class for that chapter. Homework is due the day of the test unless specified. All work is to be completed on time. **No late work will be accepted (except for excused absences).**

Labs: Each laboratory experiment is to be recorded in the bound laboratory journal, using the laboratory format provided. Students work in small groups during lab, so it is expected that students within the same group will have similar work in the journal for the set-up and data-gathering portions of the lab journal. However, each student is to write his or her own analysis---that unique portion of each experiment in which the student provides the critical and analytical summary of the actual experiment, including data analysis (usually including graphs) and discussion of experimental error.

Warm ups: Students will periodically be given warm ups at the beginning of each class to determine students’ knowledge of the material. Each warm up should be written on its own piece of paper in the Physics Notebook. They are used to help prepare students for upcoming tests.

Quizzes/Tests: For each section a multiple choice quiz and a free response quiz will be given. At the end of each section a test consisting of both multiple choice and free response questions will be given. Since all quizzes and tests are timed on the AP format, scores will be assigned according to an AP scale. Students are allowed to keep a file of quizzes and tests to review for the AP exam in May.

Trimester Exams: The trimester exams will be a comprehensive exam covering the material from that trimester’s material. The final exam will be a comprehensive exam covering the material from the entire year.

AP Physics Exam Date: Monday, May 10th 2010

Grading:	20%	Homework	93-100%	A	83-86%	B	73-76%	C
	20%	Labs	90-92%	A-	80-82%	B-	70-72%	C-
	60%	Quizzes/Tests	87-89%	B+	77-79%	C+	60-69%	D

Class participation is not specifically graded but is expected and can positively influence a borderline grade.

Website: Classroom materials, calendars, and other resources can be found at www.millerphysics.com
Password: black

Make Up Policy:

If a student is absent from class, it is their responsibility to obtain missed notes and assignments from other classmates. Students have 2 days to make up work for each day absent including homework and labs. Labs can only be made up after school on Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday.

Students absent the day of a quiz or test will make up the quiz or test the day they return during class. No exceptions. Students absent the day before an announced test will be expected to take the test with the class.

If students are absent for an extended amount of time, they will need to meet with Mr. Miller to set up a schedule of when missed material will be due. **Failure to make up work in the appropriate time will result in a grade of zero for that assignment.**

Office Hours:

Mr. Miller will be available in his classroom on Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday after school for extra help.

Class Rules:

Students should bring their physics notebook, calculator, pen, and pencil to every class. Unprepared students will be assigned detention.

Students are expected to be in their seats with all of their materials present when the bell rings. Students will not be allowed back to their locker after class begins. No student will be admitted late to class without a tardy slip from the office. Repeated tardiness will result in detention.

Daily class attendance is expected for successful completion of this course. Attendance will be taken at the start of the period. Students exceeding the maximum number of absences permitted for each trimester will receive no credit and no grade in the class. Refer to the Student-Parent Handbook for details.

The class will be conducted with mutual respect for each other and attentiveness to the subject matter. Each student is expected to listen and respect one another throughout the class. Also students are to remain in their seats until the bell rings signaling the end of class.

Students should use the bathroom during passing periods. Students may use the bathroom during class if necessary but this privilege may be taken away if abused.

No food, gum, candy, or drink will be allowed in class. Only bottled water is allowed.

Students will not be permitted to borrow or share calculators during quizzes and tests. Also playing games on your calculator will result in detention.

CHEATING will not be tolerated. If a student is cheating or copying another student's work including homework and labs, both students will receive a grade of zero on the assignment and be assigned detention.

Mr. John Thomas Miller
Thornapple Kellogg High School
3885 Bender Road
Middleville, MI 49333
(269) 795-5400 ext. 4458
www.millerphysics.com
jmiller@tkschools.org

