

Physics Course Policies and Procedures

Mrs. Burgess, Avon Lake High School

Course Description and Objectives

Physics is the fundamental science of the natural world. This course involves study, extensive laboratory work, problem solving, and demonstrations in the area of measurements, kinematics, dynamics, vectors, work, energy, waves, and electricity. With respect to Conceptual Physics, students will cover a greater variety of topics more deeply and will experience a greater emphasis on the mathematical treatment of the physical relationships in the universe. A strong set of math skills is essential for success in this course.

Student Supplies

- Students need to have and bring to class every day the following materials...
 - scientific calculator
 - textbook
 - folders, notebooks, or three-ring binders (1-½" or 2") with notes and all course materials

Grading Policy

- The course grade consists of a weighted calculation based on the following formula:
 - 50% Tests and quizzes
 - 50% Labs, classwork, and homework
- The grading scale to convert percentages to letter grades created by the Board of Education will determine your letter grade. Your semester grade will follow the formula wherein each quarter counts for 40% of your semester grade, and the exam makes up the remaining 20%.
- I generally do not give extra credit. Make the work you do for credit count.

Tests & Quizzes

- Procedures and policies for tests and quizzes are as follows:
 - All tests/quizzes are point-based, and the point values will be proportional to the amount of material covered on the test/quiz.
 - All tests will be cumulative. Each test will emphasize material from the current unit but will also contain questions from previous units. Quizzes may also be cumulative.
 - Any disruptive behavior during tests/quizzes will result in points being automatically deducted from your test/quiz grade, potential loss of credit on the test/quiz, potential parent/guardian contact, and/or potential disciplinary action.
 - Any cheating on a test will result in an automatic zero on the test as well as in disciplinary action.
 - **If you have more than two tests on a given day when I have a test scheduled for you, you may postpone by one day taking my test if you provide written verification, signed and dated by your other teachers, indicating that you have a test in those teachers' classes on the day in question.**
- Quiz retakes: Any student failing a quiz may retake the quiz to earn 50% of the redeemed points back. For example, a student who earns a 50% on the original quiz and 100% on the retake may earn a 75% in the gradebook. This does not apply to tests or curved scores, and all makeups must take place within five school days of the original quiz.

Academic Products

- On homework, classwork, and labs that involve mathematical computations, you MUST show your work by showing how you derived equations and/or plugged numbers into formulas. If you do not do this, your work will not count for any points.

Make-up Work

- Regarding the opportunity to make up work missed due to absence, please refer to the student handbook. An adjusted due date for each missed assignment will follow school policy.

Late Work

- I consider work not turned in by the due date as late. This includes adjusted due dates for assignments missed due to absence.
- You may make up late assignments for partial credit according to the following formula:
 - 50% deduction for all late work other than tests and quizzes.
 - 10% deduction each day for each test and quiz made up late. The maximum deduction is 25%, which occurs on day three or beyond.
- These penalties apply to all work: classwork, homework, labs, and tests/quizzes.

Behavioral Expectations

- Be in your assigned seat ready to work with your materials as soon as the period starts.
Consequences: Tardy, loss of credit on assignments for which you have no materials
- Follow the verbal and written instructions of the teacher.
Consequences: Loss of credit on assignments, teacher or office detentions, parent calls, office referrals
- Stay on the topic.
Consequences: Loss of credit on assignments, teacher or office detentions, parent calls, office referrals
- Be responsible for your own work and learning.
Consequences: Loss of credit on assignments, teacher or office detentions, parent calls, office referrals
- Transition quickly.
Consequences: Loss of credit on assignments, teacher or office detentions, parent calls, office referrals
- Treat yourselves, others, and property with respect.
Consequences: Teacher or office detentions, parent calls, office referrals

Tardy Policy

- During first period school rules apply, and the office will track discipline. During other periods, a second or third tardy in a semester will result in one office detention. The fourth tardy and beyond will result in office referrals. If the student handbook states a different policy, I will follow that policy.

Hall Pass Policy

- You may only use the hall pass for visits to the restroom, drinking fountain, or your locker. Policies and procedures are as follows:
 - You must sign out using the QR code and your @alstudent.org account or use the sign-out sheet.
 - You must also get the teacher's acknowledgement before using the pass.
 - I expect you to return to class within five minutes unless you're ill and are about to go home after your visit to the bathroom.
 - I expect you to go straight to the bathroom, drinking fountain, and/or your locker and then come straight back.
 - Any abuse of this privilege will result in its revocation.

Digital Age Policies and Expectations and Resources

Much of this course operates using technology to distribute resources and provide communication. It is expected that each student will...

1. Join our Google Classroom.
2. Use the Internet to enhance not replace your own authentic work.

Note: All assignments and resources will be available via Google Classroom and on sgbscience.com. If you are absent for an extended time, work will only be given to the office if the class has deviated from the plans or resources already shared on the website and Google Classroom.

Cell Phone Policy

You should leave your cell phone in your locker and not bring it to physics class. If you choose to bring your phone and use it excessively or in a distracting manner, Mrs. Burgess reserves the right to confiscate it until the end of the day for your first offense. For any offenses beyond the first offense, she will give your phone to the office along with a discipline referral. Your signature on the signature page of this document shows acknowledgement of and agreement to this policy.

Cheating Policy

Definition: Working together and using the Internet as a resource is encouraged, but copying is not. Working together means discussing a problem or question. **Using the Internet means reading, viewing videos, and using simulations with the sole intent of seeking to learn.**

You may not copy another person's work or work from the Internet in this class, study hall, lunch or another classroom. If you are caught doing this, your work as well as the work of the one you are copying off of, if applicable, will receive a zero. If Mrs. Burgess finds you working on an assignment from another class or copying work from another student for another class, the material will be taken and given to that teacher. Your physics lab data will be identical to your partners' data, but your answers to questions, conclusions, and conceptual writing must be your own.

There are many different forms of cheating. Anything that provides a student an unfair advantage over other students is considered cheating.

- On the day of an assessment (tests or quizzes), assessments are secure material.
- Discussing (verbally, via texts, posts, snaps, DMs or any form of communication) the assessment with other students in any form is cheating. "It's easy/hard" is even cheating because it gives another student an unfair advantage by suggesting how much studying is needed.

- Cheating includes telling students in other class periods what type of questions are on the assessments, asking students who have already taken the assessment for any information, or attempting to rework a problem from the assessment outside of the classroom.
- Cheating also includes keeping an extra copy or taking a picture of the material, your work, or a key.

Consequences

- The first time an incident of cheating occurs, you will receive a zero on the assignment. Depending on the severity of the incident, you might also, at the teacher's discretion, be referred to the office for disciplinary action and receive a zero.
- If you are caught cheating on a test, you will receive a zero and will be referred to the office for an honors code violation.
- Cheating incidents will impact teacher recommendations for NHS induction, college admissions, and scholarships.

Sensitive Content: Physics involves discussing the origin of the universe and the solar system along with its contents. I will present this material with respect to differences in world view and will present this content as part of what physics contends without suggesting that students must believe it.

Teacher Commitment: Mrs. Burgess will...

- Treat students fairly with respect and care.
- Be prepared with materials in order to provide students with a challenging, engaging environment.
- Provide students with an orderly classroom consistent with school standards.
- Strengthen her teaching abilities through continuing education.

Academic Help

Ensuring understanding throughout the year is essential for success in this course. Please contact me to arrange for necessary help early and often. My office hours are 7:15 a.m. to 7:40 a.m. each school day. I am not available during the school day or after school for help, as I need this time to teach, plan lessons, prepare lab equipment, and give quality assessment to student work in order to benefit all students.

Note on Labs

Avon Lake City Schools provides students with a free Google account for educational purposes. You must use Google Drive to do any collaborative work, such as lab reports and spreadsheets created together in teams. You must share these files with Mrs. Burgess at burgessm@alstudent.org. She reserves the right to view the revision history of these files to ensure that each partner contributes equally. If evidence of equal effort is not present, she reserves the right to revoke points and/or require rewrites from individuals who do not appear to her to have worked equally hard as other team members.

Parent-Teacher Contact

I believe each student does best when parents/guardians and teachers team together in the student's interest. Therefore I welcome parents and guardians to contact me at any time with questions, comments, concerns, and positive suggestions. Email is the most efficient and private way for us to communicate, as opportunities to make private phone calls are less

frequent than opportunities to send emails. However, parents are always welcome to telephone, as well.

- Michelle.Burgess@avonlakecityschools.org
- 440-933-6290 x 1262

Disclaimer: This classroom plan is not meant to be all encompassing. As the year progresses, there may be a need for additional assignments or modifications to expectations.

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Acknowledgement

We, the undersigned, have read and understand the course overview and policies for Mrs. Burgess' physics class.

_____	_____
Student Printed Name	Date

_____	_____
Student Signature	Date

_____	_____
Parent/Guardian Signature	Date

_____	_____
Parent/Guardian Signature	Date