

## General Physics

### Rules of the Road

#### 1. Usual Motivating Paragraph

This is a laboratory course in Physics that prepares the students in physics by covering the appropriate State Science Standards. The essential topics are motion and forces, conservation of energy and momentum, waves, and electronic and magnetic phenomena. In class the emphasis is on concepts, lab work, and making appropriate connections with the pre-calculus classes.

#### 2. Contact Info

Teacher: Mr. Nate Fulmer  
Email: [nfulmer@lcusd.net](mailto:nfulmer@lcusd.net)  
Website: [fulmerphysics.weebly.com](http://fulmerphysics.weebly.com)

I will check my email on the regular; it's the best way to get ahold of me.

#### 3. Required Materials

Come to class each day fully equipped with the following tools of the trade: writing utensils (pen or pencil), scientific calculator (you may use graphing calculators for in-class work and homework, however, graphing calculators will NOT be allowed on tests or quizzes), college rule paper, textbook

Our textbook for the year is *Conceptual Physics* by Paul G. Hewitt. The textbooks will be provided, and the student will be responsible for their care until they are returned at the end of the school year.

#### 4. Class Rule(s)

I have one rule in my class: DDDT

Don't

Do

Dumb

Things

If you can abide by this one rule, things will go swimmingly.

##### 4a. How to avoid doing dumb things

- Respect yourself, the teacher, classmates, and the classroom environment
- Be punctual
- Refrain from distracting your classmates
- Do not cheat. Academic dishonesty of any kind will result in a zero mark, family will be contacted, and the student responsible will be referred to the Honor Court
- In general, before doing something, ask yourself, "Is this a dumb thing to do?" If the answer is yes, then don't do it!
- Be prepared, alert, and ready to learn!

##### 4b. What if I do dumb things?

Failure to adhere to classroom expectations will result in progressive disciplinary action: verbal warning, parent phone call, detention, referral, suspension - depending on the severity of the offense.

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### 5. Grade Breakdown

Homework/Labs:	50%
Quizzes:	10%
Tests:	20%
Midterm:	10%
Final:	10%

A+ $\geq 97.0\%$	A 93.0 – 96.9%	A- 90.0 – 92.9%
B+ 87.0 – 89.9%	B 83.0 – 86.9%	B- 80.0 – 82.9%
C+ 77.0 – 79.9%	C 73.0 – 76.9%	C- 70.0 – 72.9%
D+ 67.0 – 69.9%	D 63.0 – 66.9%	D- 60.0 – 62.9%

### 6. Homework

Homework will be assigned and checked regularly. Assignments will be graded both quantitatively and qualitatively, meaning your grade will be based on both the completion of the assignment as well as the quality of the work. Homework is due and will be checked at the beginning of class on the due date. Late work will be accepted for partial credit (2/5 pts). You will be responsible for keeping your assignments, which will be assembled into a homework packet and turned in on the day of the chapter test.

If you're absent, it is *your responsibility* to get the assignment from the teacher before or after class. Likewise, it is *your responsibility* to get the notes from a classmate so you will be able to complete the assignment. Make-up work is expected to be completed and submitted in a timely fashion. You will have the number of days you were absent, plus one, to complete make-up work and still receive full credit.

### 7. Tests and Quizzes

Tests and quizzes will be used to assess your ability to recall information and apply knowledge. *Anything* from lecture notes, homework, and assigned reading will be fair game for tests and quizzes.

If you're absent on the day of a test or quiz, it is *your responsibility* to arrange a time with the teacher to make it up.

### 8. Midterm and Final

The midterms will take place roughly halfway through each semester and will include all material covered during first and third quarter respectively. The finals will take place at the end of each semester and will examine the semester's material comprehensively. The second semester final will only explicitly test second semester material but will use tools and draw from knowledge gained during the first half of the school year.

### 9. Labs

While working in the laboratory, you will have important responsibilities that do not apply to other classrooms. You will be working with materials and apparatuses that, if handled carelessly or improperly, have the potential to cause pain, serious injury, or death. A science laboratory can be a safe place to work, if you are alert, cautious, and follow directions with care. The following practices should be studied:

**Laboratory Preparation** – Read the procedure and complete any pre-lab assignments before coming to class. Follow the directions precisely (but paraphrase them) and make note of any changes in procedure given.

**Eye Protection** – Wear safety goggles at all times when doing an experiment involving chemicals. If a chemical splashes into your eye, use the wash fountain by irrigating your eye continuously for 15 minutes. Notify me immediately. Never direct water from the faucet into the eye as the high pressure may cause more damage.

**Conditions of Work Area** – You should maintain a work area that is free of books, coats, book bags, chemical spills, excess chemicals, and trash. No objects should be on the floor as this may cause someone to trip and fall. Cleanup spills immediately.

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**Disposal of Waste Material** – Waste paper, towels, and other trash must be discarded in the wastebaskets; waste chemicals in the labeled waste containers. Do not throw matches into wastebaskets except after running water over them.

**Chemical Spills on Your Body** – A safety shower is located in the laboratory and should only be used to wash chemicals from your body if the sink is not sufficient. Contaminated clothing should be removed as soon as possible.

**Fire on You or Your Lab Partner** – STOP, DROP AND ROLL. Someone should immediately retrieve a fire blanket to roll in. Never wrap a fire blanket around someone who is standing up, as this will cause the fire to rise to the head and chest area. If you are near the safety shower, get under it instead.

**Fire in the Laboratory** – Notify the teacher immediately if any smoke or fire is seen and then follow their instructions.

**Accident Reports** – Report any accident to the teacher immediately, no matter how minor. This includes any burn, scratch, cut or contact with corrosive liquid (acid or base). Also report any defective or broken equipment and other potential dangers at once. But most important remember to stay calm.

**Safety Stations** – Know the location of the emergency shower, eye wash fountain, fire extinguisher, safety goggle storage, and exits.

**Hair** – Confine long hair with a band, hairpins or a hairnet.

**Eating and Drinking** – Since there is a possibility of food substances becoming contaminated, no eating or drinking is allowed in the laboratory.

**Laboratory Conduct** – Be courteous and exercise common sense. There will be no practical-joking, running, pushing or horse-play.

**Unauthorized Experiments** – Under no circumstances should you conduct any experiment other than those that have been assigned, unless you have discussed it with me and have my permission.

**Hands** – Wash your hands in the sink before you leave the lab. Avoid touching your eyes and face. Under no circumstances are you to apply make-up in class.

**Electrical Appliances** – Always remove an electrical plug by the plug and not the cord.

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### Physics Syllabus Agreement

**My signature indicates that I have thoroughly read, understand, and agree to the above-mentioned policies and expectations of Mr. Fulmer's physics course and assume full responsibility for any and all repercussions as a result of non-compliance.**

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_