Academic Physics

Course Syllabus

Mr. Breish

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Welcome to the class! Over the next five months we will be exploring matter, motion and energy. This course will require effort on your behalf. It is often thought that some students are “just good” at math and science and others are not. The three determining factors most students attribute to success are intelligence, effort and luck. Of these, the strongest correlation with success is effort. The concepts that we will deal with in this class will require critical and creative thinking. The expectation is that you will come to class prepared to learn. You will speak up when you need clarity. You will put in the time necessary to achieve. Your grade will reflect your effort. **WORK HARD, GET** **SMART!**

Understanding Your Grade:

For each marking period, the breakdown of grades will be the following:

60% quizzes and tests

30% lab activities and write ups

10% assignments

Final grade for the course:

40% 1st marking period

40% 2nd marking period

10% core assessments (3 throughout the semester)

10% final exam

What to Expect from Day to Day:

-Every day when you arrive there will be some sort of directions on the board. It may be a Do Now or a Question of the Day. It may be to get out specific materials for an activity. The first few minutes of class will generally be devoted to this. If it is not a lab or quiz day, the expectation is that you have out your class notebook, something to write with and a calculator.

-I hope that most weeks will be similar in structure. My goal is to finish one chapter per week.

Other Key Points:

-I will be available after school on Wednesdays and Fridays for any make up work. Students should give advanced notice if they are coming in for help/make up.

-Email is the best way to contact me. Students with questions about homework should email me by 7:00pm if they want a response that evening.

-If you are absent, refer to the class website for anything that you missed. Make sure to come in with questions about anything that you need clarity on. If you are absent, you are responsible for all the work that you missed. Most exams will be preceded by a review day. There is no new material covered on this day. If you are absent on a review day you will be expected to take the exam when you return. If you are absent on exam day, be prepared to take the exam during class the day that you return.

-If you are absent on the day of a lab, you must arrange a time to come in and make it up after school. You will lose 10% of the credit for late labs for each day that it is late. Students handing in work more than a week overdue can still earn up to 50% of the total credit.

-Homework will be done online using Quest Assessment found at: https://quest.cns.utexas.edu/ Students are responsible for registering on the website and registering for the class once they have created an account. You will generally have 2 nights to work on an assignment.

Do not wait until the last minute. Those with computer problems should let me know ahead of time to make arrangements for written assignments. You may email me if you have questions about quest assignments from the time that the assignment is issued until the day it is due during class. You may not email me the night that it is due with questions about the assignment if you have had more than 24 hours to work on it.

Register for our class: once you have registered on Quest, you will have to register for our class.

Search for the course number and request enrollment. Once approved, you will be able to view assignments.

Quest Unique ID:

Academic Integrity:

-There is an expectation that all students will be honorable and honest when communicating with fellow students and the instructor. Students will hand in work that they produced. Unless there are specific instructions for collaboration, students are expected to hand in work that was created solely by them. If a student copies another student's homework, neither student will receive credit for the assignment because there is no way of determining the original author.

Behavioral Expectations:

-Cell Phones: Mobile phones are a very good tool. The modern cell phone allows the user to access all the knowledge of the human race with a few taps of a finger. There will be times that students will be allowed to use their phones to check grades that have been posted or specific assignments or work on the homework. These times will be announced by the teacher. At all other times, there is an expectation that cell phones will remain in a place where they are not in view or accessible. This means in a purse, in a backpack or in a pocket that completely covers the phone. If there is valid reason to have a phone out in class, please inform the teacher at the beginning of class. Students that cannot follow this policy will receive cell phone violations. If you need clarity about cell phone violations see the following web address: http://cbsd.org/Page/12124.

-This is a busy time of life. Many students are involved with after school activities, work a part time job and have many other responsibilities in their lives. If you are struggling with a concept, please do not hesitate to reach out. Be prepared when coming into tutoring that you will be expected to show what you have tried and where you need help. Before I can help you I need to see that you have attempted the work and are working hard.

Topics to be covered and their anticipated duration:

-Intro to Physics 1 Week

-Constant Velocity 1 Week

-Constant Acceleration

& 1-D Kinematics 2 Weeks

-Newton's 1st and 3rd Laws 2 Weeks

-Newton's 2nd Law 2 Weeks Core Assessment

-Circular Motion 1 Week

-2-D Kinematics 1.5 Weeks Core Assessment

-Work, Energy & Power 1.5 weeks

-Electricity 2 Weeks Core Assessment

-Mechanical Waves 1 Week

-Color & Sound 0.5 Weeks

-Optics 1.5 Weeks