

Atlantic High School Course Syllabus

2010- 2011

(Physics I Honors)

Course Description: The purpose of this course is to provide opportunities to study the concepts of physics. The content will include, but is not limited to the following: the nature of science, linear and projectile, momentum, Newton's laws of motion, thermodynamics, sound, and optics. Laboratory activities are an integral part of this course.

Course Facilitator(s): Ms. Curtis

Phone: 322-6100 ext. 38204

Email: scurtis@volusia.k12.fl.us

Planning Period: 5th Period

Office Hours: I am available for extra help for students – Mon. – Fri 6:30 – 7:20 A.M.

Resources: “Physics: Principles and Problems” plus a variety of ancillary materials

Grading Policy:

A	=	90 – 100
B	=	80 – 89
C	=	70 – 79
D	=	60 - 69
F	=	0 – 59

During this class students will be required to complete various daily assignments, homework, labs, quizzes, and tests. Each item will be assigned a point value. Points are assessed in four areas discussed above. A final exam worth 10% of the final nine weeks grade will be given covering the entire course.

We will be doing several labs in this class. One outdoor lab which enables you “see” and “feel” physics first hand is our visit to Busch Gardens. The trip is a part of my curriculum. It will cost \$_____ plus lunch money. We will be gone from 7:30 a.m. to approximately 6:00 p.m. You will be making height, velocity, and angular measurements, as well as testing “g” forces. You do not need to actually ride the ride to make the measurements as long as one person in the group is willing to go on the ride for the “g” force measurement. The next day in class you will be doing all the calculations from the trip and writing your conclusions.

Science Fair Projects: All science students are required to do a science fair project to be submitted for our in-school science fair. If they are judged to then go on to the District science fair, they will know in plenty of time. This project counts as 10% of their overall grade.

Active Classroom: I post class work daily on active classroom, so no student should ever come back from an absence unaware of the work we did those missed days.

Grade Communication Policy: Grade sheets will be distributed on a bi-weekly basis. They will go home every other Monday to be signed by a parent and returned to class by Wednesday. If you have any concerns or comments, please write them on the grade sheet and I will contact you, if necessary. You may also feel free to contact me directly at the above number.

Late Work Policy: Late work will not receive full credit. However, it *must* be completed. Credit for late assignments may vary according to assignment type per teacher discretion.

District Make-Up Work Policy: Recognizing the importance of education we encourage you to attend school on a daily basis. Students will make up all work missed due to absences. For each day absent, a student has the equal number of days plus one to make up any missed work. [Example: 1 day absent = 2 days to make up work; 2 days absent = 3 days to make up work.]

If a student misses a test but was in class for the review, *they will make up the test the first day they return*. They will do so in my office during class. What they miss during that class they will be responsible for getting from another student.

If labs are missed, students will make them up by coming to learning labs. Labs are critical to this course as they help further explain through “seeing” the various themes of Physics. I always announce labs in advance so it is of the utmost importance that students make every effort to be in attendance.

Supplies Needed: Student planner [or notebook sheet dedicated to assignments for this class]

Three-ring binder
Dividers: homework, quizzes, labs, notes
Loose-leaf paper
Graph Paper
Pencils (regular and colored)
Pens in blue or black ink only
Scientific Calculator
1 box of Kleenex
1 package of paper towels
1 small bottle of hand sanitizer

Classroom Behavior Expectations: 1. Students will be in class on time and ready to work (book, pen, pencils, notebooks, agendas, and lined paper) 2. No food or drinks in class, but you may chew gum provided it stays in your mouth or goes in the trash when done. 3. Show respect for teachers and fellow students. 4. Cheating will not be tolerated. You will receive a zero for the assignment, your parent(s) will be called, and you will be sent to Mr. Pagano’s office.

Tardiness: Atlantic has a policy that will be followed to the letter. Parents will be contacted on the first offense.

Bathroom usage: Students will be allowed passes to the restroom as long as it doesn’t become excessive.

Food and drink in the classroom: You may bring a bottle of water into the classroom.

Dress code: Atlantic’s dress code will be strictly enforced. Please see your agenda for details

Learning Labs: Now called Academic Interventions will be mandatory for all students who fall below a 70% in any core class or anyone above that would like extra help. *Thursdays* at lunch are assigned for the science department. My office hours are still available for anyone who needs additional help or longer to make up work.

Student – Parent Responsibility and Accountability Agreement:

It is your son's/daughter's responsibility to remain informed concerning his/her progress in this class. Grades will be posted to the district web-based grade-book program and can be accessed by parents and students for verification of class grades. The school issues official progress reports for all classes at the midpoint of each semester. The dates for these mail outs are contained within the student handbook as well as the monthly school newsletter. If you are unsure of your child's performance and attendance in any class, please contact either the teacher of the class, the guidance department or an appropriate administrator immediately!

Parents: Please sign this sheet and have your son/daughter return it to me. It will signify that you have read and understand my individual classroom expectations. Please also record my telephone number with extension should you ever need to contact me.

Parent/Guardian signature: _____

I have read and understand what is expected of my child as a student in Honors Physics.