Physics – Dr. E’s Way  [mewoldsen@lcusd.net](mailto:mewoldsen@lcusd.net)

**Course Description**

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

# **Behavior / Citizenship Expectations**

**To earn an O in citizenship, I expect you to:**

* Respect yourself, others and the school
* Have no truancies and no more than one unexcused tardy per quarter.
* Act appropriately and safely during lab work.
* Clean up thoroughly when you leave the classroom.
* Ask your parents to email me if you have fallen sick on the day of a test.
* The only thing that should enter your mouth during class is air and water from a bottle.
* Turn in labs and homework on the day due.

**To earn an S, I expect you to:**

* To follow the above rules with only minor infractions.
* To have no truancies and no more than two unexcused tardies per quarter.

**To earn an N, I expect you will have:**

* Violate the above on many occasions.  I will call your parents to report this type of behavior.

**To earn a U, I expect you will have:**

* Been disrespectful to me or to one of the other students.
* Been truant more than once.
* Have 4 or more unexcused tardies in a quarter.
* Cheated – see below

**Cheating**

* Work based upon course readings and other sources MUST be restated in your own words.
* Plagiarism – Claiming work as your own that is not the product of your own original thought or work. All work handed in under you name must be unique.
* Please be advised that using the Internet and claiming another’s work found through such information technologies is a fundamental betrayal of the ideal of academic honesty. **DO NOT PUT YOURSELF IN THE POSITION TO HAVE TO CUT AND PASTED INFORMATION FOUND ELSEWHERE, LIKE WIKIPEDIA, AND CLAIM IT AS YOUR OWN. THIS IS NOT ALLOWED.**
* See me in office hours or after school if you have any questions related to plagiarism or cheating.

**Consequences of Cheating**

* Cheating and plagiarism are considered serious offenses and will not be tolerated.
* Students who are found cheating or plagiarizing will receive no credit for the assignment and your parents will be contacted.
* Your citizenship grade will also suffer.
* Multiple ore severe offences will be cause for removal from the course or other disciplinary action deemed appropriate by the instructor, working in consultation with the school administration, and the parent(s) of the student.
* I will NOT write a positive letter of recommendation.

## Letter Grade Policy

A separate total will be kept for Formative material (Homework/Quizzes/Lab Reports – 30%), and Summative material (Chapter tests and review tests – 70%).  **Grades** **will not be rounded up**.  Students receiving a semester grade below C- will be advised to drop the class. There will not be any dropped tests.

A+ 97.0% +          A 94.0 – 96.9%   A- 90.0 – 93.9%

B+ 87.0 – 89.9%   B 84.0 – 86.9%   B- 80.0 – 83.9%

C+ 77.0 – 79.9%   C 74.0 – 76.9%   C- 70.0 – 73.9%

D+ 67.0 – 69.9%   D 64.0 – 66.9%   D- 60.0 – 63.9%

### Tests

Tests will examine your ability to recall information and apply the knowledge. If you miss a test due to an excused absence, you must see me on the day you return.  If you are absent please ask your parent to contact me by phone or email if you are ill on the day of a test.

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| **Multiple Choice:**  Which of the following is not required when determining velocity?  A.  direction                        B. distance traveled                        C. time                        D. mass |
| **Math Problems:**  A clown leaves a cannon with a velocity of 100 m/s at an angle of 37o.  If there is no air resistance, how far away does the clown hope is the center of the net? |
| **Short Answers:**  Explain the why the ocean is cyan, the sky is blue and sunsets are red. |

**Homework/Quizzes/Labs**

Homework will be turned in on the day of the test.  No homework will be accepted late except for excused absences and then within the same number of days you were absent *plus one*.  Quizzes will be used to help prepare you for the tests. Remember that notes may be used on the quizzes.

Lab Reports are based on a 20-point scale and **are due the day after the lab is completed**. No lab reports will be accepted late. If you are absent on the day of a lab, you may be asked to write a report on the concept if the lab has been taken down. Failure to observe any of the safety procedures will result in the loss of lab credit and removal from the room.

**Assignments**

Assignments are given on the Internet at <http://home.lcusd.net/lchs/mewoldsen>.

**Study Tips**

 It is essential that you do all the work and reading.  It is essential that you take notes from the textbook and the lectures.  Make sure that you develop a thorough understanding of the proper uses of the Internet. If you need additional help use the links and review pages from the textbook linked to the website.

#### LAB SAFETY POLICY OF SCIENCE STUDENTS

**La Canada High School**

    While working in the laboratory, you will have important responsibilities that do not apply to other classrooms.  You will be working with materials and apparatus that, if handled carelessly or improperly, have the potential to cause pain serious injury or death.   A science laboratory can be a save 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 the pre-lab assignment 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.
* **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 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, , pushing or horse-play.
* **Hands** – Wash your hands in the sink before you leave the lab.  Avoid touching your eyes and face.