

**ANN ARBOR HURON HIGH SCHOOL**  
**Course Syllabus: Conceptual Physics(2008-2009)**

**Teacher:** Mrs. Wilkening

**Classroom:** 5204

**Course Goals:** The purpose of this course is to introduce students to a wide range of physics concepts and help them connect physics to real world experiences..

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Semester Topics:</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Topics:</b>
<u>Unit 1: Mechanics</u> 1. Linear Motion 2. Projectile Motion 3. Newton's First Law of Motion 4. Newton's Second Law of Motion 5. Newton's Third Law of Motion 6. Momentum <u>Unit 2: Energy and Motion</u> 1. Energy 2. Universal Gravitation 3. Gravitational Interactions <u>Culminating Activity</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physics of Sport</li> </ul>	<u>Unit 2: Electricity and Magnetism</u> 1. Electric Current 2. Electric Circuits 3. Magnetism 4. Electromagnetic Induction <u>Unit 3: Sound and Light</u> 1. Vibrations and Waves 2. Sound 3. Light 4. Color 5. Reflection and Refraction 6. Lenses <u>Unit 5: Circular Motion</u>  <u>Culminating Activity</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cedar Point Project</li> </ul>

**Daily Required Materials:**

1. Textbook: Prentice Hall – *Conceptual Physics by Paul Hewitt*
2. Writing utensil(pencil, blue or black pen)
3. Paper or Notebook(for taking notes)
4. Folder or Binder(for organizing materials)
5. Scientific Calculator

**Expectations:**

1. BE RESPONSIBLE for your behavior and your success.
  - Come to class everyday, on time and prepared to learn.
  - Be organized - maintain your notebook
  - Pay attention and follow directions.
  - Demonstrate self-discipline and initiative.
2. MASTER THE SUBJECT MATTER covered in class.
  - Complete assignments on time.
  - Study for quizzes and tests.
  - Ask questions and learn from your mistakes.
  - Study with other students or family members.
3. To SHOW RESPECT for yourself, others and school property.
  - Treat others how you would like to be treated yourself - show kindness and patience.
  - Chose the right time and tone in making comments and sharing concerns.
  - Use language and discuss issues appropriate for the classroom.
  - Be helpful and encouraging to your classmates and staff.
  - Help keep the classroom clean.

4. Be POSITIVE and have FUN!!!!!!

### **Classroom Policies and Procedures:**

1. **Homework Due** – Homework(including late work) is collected at the BEGINNING of the class on the day it's due. If no due date is given, assume it is due the next day.
2. **Show Work** – For credit, you must show work(if mathematical) or provide explanations(if written) in your response to questions on assignments, quizzes and tests. On homework multiple choice you must give a brief but clear reason why you selected your answer.
3. **Make Up Work** - *All students who were absent are responsible for asking the teacher for make up work and returning that work in a timely fashion.*
  - a) For excused absences, late assignments will be accepted and given full credit, if it is submitted in within the number of days equal to the number of excused absence days.(two excused days = two make up days). However if an assignment was due on the excused day it will be collected immediately upon your return.  
To be eligible for this extra time:
    - 1) the excused absence must be confirmed by calling the main office within 24 hours.
    - 2) the student must make a note at the top of the late assignment stating how many days the assignment is excused for and why the assignment is excused.
  - b) Unexcused late work will be penalized at 50%. A maximum of three late assignments will be accepted per quarter, but they must be submitted in the quarter they were assigned.
  - c) In most cases, quizzes and tests will need to be made up outside of normal class time, under the same time restraints as the other assignments. To have the opportunity to make up a quiz or test the absence must be excused.
4. **Cheating** - Cheating will not be tolerated and will be dealt with in accordance to school policy.
  - a) During quizzes and tests students must remain quiet and focused on their paper.
  - b) For assignments, identical work or possession of a classmates paper is unacceptable and will result in a zero for both parties. It is okay to work together just make sure your answers are put into your own words or solved using your own style.
5. **Late Arrivals**
  - a) If you have a pass, hand me the pass and quietly take your seat.
  - b) If you don't have a pass, quietly make sure that I am aware you have arrived as you take your seat. Speak to me after class to explain why you didn't have a pass and to make sure I make the appropriate adjustments in the attendance book. (Remember: If you are more than 10 minutes late to a period it is considered an absence.)
6. **Emergency Passes** - Passes create a time consuming distraction to the teacher and class. Please try to avoid asking for a pass. In case of an emergency, students are allowed to use a maximum of three 'emergency' passes per quarter. An emergency pass is good for a maximum of 5 minutes. No passes are allowed in the last 5 minutes of class. Using an emergency pass will result in your forfeiting a bonus participation point.
7. **Raise Your Hand** - If you have a question or comment, please raise your hand.
8. **Productive Class Time** - If you have any unfinished work, you must use the class time to complete it. Show the teacher your completed assignment before you put it away.
9. **Dismissal** – Stay seated until you are dismissed, please do not line up at the door,.
10. **Extra Help** - I will usually be available during lunch(except 1<sup>st</sup> Weds) and during 7<sup>th</sup> hour.

### **Classroom Rules**

1. Remain quietly seated and pay attention when the class is being addressed.
2. Heads Up!
3. All local school rules apply to the classroom, including those related to dress, electronic devices, language and gestures.

## **Disciplinary Actions:**

Failure to follow any of the classroom expectations, procedures, policies or rules may result in any of the following consequences:

1. Failure to earn participation points
2. Change in seating assignment
3. Student / teacher conference
4. Detention/Student Action Plan(in my room)
5. Teacher/parent(or guardian) conference
6. Referral (to administrators)

## **Assessment**

**Record of Achievement(ROA)** – Students are encourage to maintain a record of all the points that they earn and calculate their current percentage based on the number of points they have earned. The record of achievement will be collected before the end of the quarter for extra credit.

**Daily Assignment Grades** - Most daily assignments will be worth 10 points. In many cases: one point will be awarded for a properly labeled(full name, period, page and problem #'s) and neatly completed assignment; 6 points for completing all the problems. (Remember: You must show work for credit.); 3 points based on your response to one randomly selected problem.

**Lab and Project Grades** - Labs and other projects will be worth varying amounts of points depending on the complexity and time required to complete the assignment.

**Quiz and Test Grades** – Generally, it is more difficult to earn points on quizzes and tests. Quizzes and tests will not be curved. You may earn partial credit for partially correct work.

**Participation Bonus Points(Extra Credit)**- Students will have the opportunity to earn one extra credit point per class period. To earn this point, the student must be present the whole period, participate in class activities and abide by the expectations, policies, procedures and rules as outlined in this syllabus.

## **Quarter Grade**

- The students quarter grade will be based on the following components:
  1. Assignments/Labs( 50%) - daily assignments, activities, lab reports and projects.
  2. Quizzes/Tests( 50%) – will cover material from a particular section or chapter.
  3. Extra credit - Participation Bonus Points and Record of Achievement points
- Each item will be worth a certain number of points.
- At the end of the quarter, all points the student has earned will be added and divided by the total number of points possible to get a percentage. It is advised that you receive your final grade and you are confident it is correct.
- This percentage will be converted into a letter grade by the following scale:

A+ = $\geq 97\%$	B+ = 87 – 89%	C+ = 77 – 79%	D+ = 67 – 69%	E = $\leq 59\%$
A = 93 – 96 %	B = 83 – 86 %	C = 73 – 76%	D = 63 – 66 %	
A- = 90 – 92 %	B- = 80 – 82 %	C- = 70 – 72%	D- = 60 – 62 %	

## **Semester Grade**

The final grade will be determined by adding the total number of points earned in each quarter to the total number of points earned on the final exam. This total will be divided by the total number of points possible to get a percentage that will be converted to a letter grade according to the scale above. (Note: The final exam will equal approximately 20% of the semester grade.)

## **Final Word**

If you have any questions, comments or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me, before school, between classes, or after school. The surest way to achieve success in my classroom is attend regularly, to behave appropriately and work hard. I will not pass or fail anyone. I am here to help you in anyway I can, but it is up to you to do the work and earn a respectable grade. I look forward to an enjoyable and successful year for us all. Good luck!!!!

Sincerely, *Mrs. Wilkening*