



Teacher: Mrs. Shannon M. Morey

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Office Hours

Classroom: A201

Day: Tuesdays

Time: 2:45 pm - 4 pm

Course Description: Advanced Honors Foundations of Physics is an inquiry centered course. Major themes are mechanics, energy, vibrations and waves, light and optics, electricity and magnetism, and modern physics. Students learn through Socratic teaching, demos, readings, experiments, interactive virtual labs, and analysis of videos. Completion of this course prepares students to take the introductory physics MCAS, and introduces topics from SAT Physics subject test.

Materials: Pencil or pen, binder, scientific calculator

Textbook: Physics: Principles & Problems, Zitzewitz et al, McGraw Hill, 2013

Means of Evaluation: The list below generally describes the assignments that each student will be expected to complete during the course. Guidelines for each assignment will be distributed individually.

Component	Percent	Expectations
Assessments	50%	Assessments will take the form of quizzes, formal lab reports, lab analyses, and projects. Lab reports and lab analyses will make up a major portion of your assessment grade. It will be nearly impossible to receive higher than a C if you do not complete lab reports or lab analyses. Short quizzes consisting of three multiple choice questions will be given every other class period. These quizzes <b>may not</b> be made up due to tardiness or absences, excused or unexcused. You can receive half credit for these quizzes by completing them as we review them in class the next period.
Notebook/Classwork	30%	Notebooks (binders) may be graded by periodic checks and/or quizzes. Classwork will consist of hands-on activities, practice, discussion, and collaborative work.
Homework	20%	Homework will consist of readings, notes, online videos, and problem sets.

Final exams are worth 20% of each semester grade.

<p><b>Grading Scale:</b></p> <p>90-100% = A (A+: 97 - 100%, A: 94 - 96%, A-: 90 - 93%)</p> <p>80-89% = B (B+: 87 - 89%, B: 84 - 86%, B-: 80 - 83%)</p> <p>70-79% = C (C+: 77 - 79%, C: 74 - 76%, C-: 70 - 73%)</p> <p>65-69% = D (D+: 67 - 69%, D: 65 - 66%)</p> <p>0-64% = F</p>	<p>An "A" grade represents outstanding work that is good enough to be shown to other students as an example.</p> <p>A "B" grade indicates better than average work that demonstrates excellent effort and understanding.</p> <p>A "C" grade is assigned to work that demonstrates competence but does not display any attempt to shine.</p> <p>A "D" grade indicates work that is lacking in some important way.</p> <p>An "F" is a failing grade. It will be given if an assignment or exam is not submitted or is extremely poorly executed, or in the case of plagiarism or other failure to adhere to norms of academic honesty.</p>
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**ATTENDANCE**

Attendance is mandatory. Students accruing more than **nine unexcused absences in a yearlong class or five unexcused absences in a semester long class** will receive a failing grade. This does not include *excused* absences which are religious observances, approved campus activities or field trips, or a serious illness, medical / family emergency. Excused absences require official written documentation (such as a signed note from a parent, physician, or teacher).

Students are expected to arrive to each class on time. Students will be marked tardy if they are not in their seats by the time the bell rings. Students who arrive more than fifteen minutes late to a class will be marked absent. Chronic lateness will negatively impact student grades. Three tardies is equivalent to one unexcused absence.

- **Chronic Absences:** Students who are on track to have 9 absences in a yearlong course or 5 absences in a semester long course will receive a letter grade of "WF" in the gradebook. WF stands for "Warning Failure" and will remain in the gradebook until the student completes the course under the allotted number of absences or makes up absences. The process for making up absences must be approved by the Principal and will be agreed upon by the school, the student, and a parent/guardian.
- **Tardiness:** Students who are consistently late to classes will receive disciplinary action. Consequences are as follows:
  - One after-school detention after a student's 3<sup>rd</sup> unexcused tardy in a class.
  - Two after-school detentions after a student's 6<sup>th</sup> unexcused tardy in a class (parent phone call).
  - Three after-school detentions after a student's 9<sup>th</sup> unexcused tardy in a class (parent meeting).
  - A Week of after school detention after a student's 12<sup>th</sup> unexcused tardy in a class.
  - Students will be referred to **in-school suspension** after their 15<sup>th</sup> tardy. Disciplinary action after the 18<sup>th</sup> tardy will be at the discretion of the principal and may include an attendance hearing at Central Office and/or disqualification from taking Early College courses.

**Make-up Work**

If a student is absent, it is their responsibility to get assignments from their teachers. Students who are absent on a due date need to turn in their work the following day that the class meets at the start of class. If students are absent when major assignments are due, they must turn in their work the next calendar day. Please note that it is not possible to make-up our short quizzes. See the "Means of Evaluation" section for more details.

**Late Work**

Written assignments are due at the beginning of each period. Late work will incur penalties. Teachers determine the point deductions for each assignment.

**Snow Days**

Students are encouraged to check the Lawrence Public Schools webpage, the Superintendent's Twitter account, and their local news station for information about Snow Days. If a Snow Day is observed on a "A-Day" schedule, upon returning to school students will follow a "B-day" schedule. In the event that a due date for a major assignment falls on a snow day, students must still turn in the assignment only if it required electronic submission.

**ACADEMIC SUPPORT**

An important skills we expect ALA students to continually development throughout their high school career is *Self-Advocacy*, which is identifying what you need to be successful and seeking out the resources or people to help you. ALA provides numerous opportunities for students to advocate for themselves.

Office Hours - Teachers are available to help students in their classrooms each day until 3:15 pm. In addition, teachers hold office hours from 2:45 - 4:00 pm once a week so that students can discuss their work in the course and ask questions. Students are encouraged to attend office hours to seek extra support. If a student cannot make a teacher's scheduled office hours, they should contact them directly to set up a meeting.

*Study Hall* - All ALA students have at least an hour and thirty minutes of Study Hall per week on Thursdays where they can work on assignments and meet with teachers. Students can sign-up for an extra Study Hall period on Wednesdays during our Advisory block.

### **GUIDANCE POLICY**

Students are required to set up appointments to meet during the school day with the guidance counselor. She also holds drop-in times before and after school and during Advisory. In an emergency, a teacher can refer students immediately to the guidance office.

### **HALL PASSES**

Students should obtain a Hall Pass from a teacher to use the restroom or travel within ALA. Students are also required to sign-in/out when leaving and re-entering a classroom. A separate written pass is required to go to the nurse. Students cannot leave any class during the first or final ten minutes of a 90-minute class. This is known as the 10/10 rule. Teachers will use their discretion on a case by case basis.

### **UNIFORM**

Students are to be in uniform at all times. The uniform consists of an ALA black or maroon polo, khakis, and closed-toed shoes. Other acceptable garments include crew neck sweaters, fleeces, cardigans, or ALA track jackets in black, maroon, navy, or white. These garments must be solid colored and should not have any designs or stripes. Polo shirts must always be worn underneath these garments. Hooded sweatshirts and denim are not allowed in any way. Student cannot wear these garments through their arms. Students may wear LHS or ALA gear so long as they have a visible ALA polo underneath. Students who have any concerns regarding uniforms should reach out to any ALA teachers or administrators who will help resolve any issues discretely.

Students who do not adhere to our uniform guidelines will be subject to the following disciplinary action:

- **-One** after-school detention after a student's **3<sup>rd</sup>** offense.
- **-Two** after-school detentions after a student's **6<sup>th</sup>** offense (parent phone call).
- **-Three** after-school detentions after a student's **9<sup>th</sup>** offense (parent meeting).
- **-A Week** of after school detention after a student's **12<sup>th</sup>** offense.
- -Students will be referred to **in-school suspension** after their **15<sup>th</sup>** offense. Disciplinary action after the **18<sup>th</sup>** offense will be at the discretion of the principal and may include a hearing at Central Office and/or disqualification from extracurricular activities, school events, and taking Early College courses.
- Teachers have the authority to confiscate items of clothing that are not in adherence with the dress code. Items will be returned to students at the end of the day.

*\*We acknowledge that situations may arise throughout the year where a student may not have access to a uniform. We ask that students have a parent inform us when such situations arise. A parent can notify the school by phone, email, or note before 8:00am on that day.*

### **ACCEPTABLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY**

The use of technology in classrooms and throughout ALA should be viewed as a privileged resource and not a right. Each teacher will determine when technology may be used in the classroom. Any inappropriate use of laptops or phones (such as texting, internet browsing, Facebook/ Twitter, etc) will negatively impact student grades and result in further disciplinary action. Teachers reserve the right to confiscate laptops/phones until the end of the period. If further issues arise, administration will confiscate devices for the rest of the day and notify parents.

#### *School Computers*

ALA has several computer carts equipped with Chromebooks and full-service Laptops. Many of the carts are only for classroom use and some are reserved for individual student sign-out.

- *Classroom Carts* – computers in these carts are not to be taken out for student's individual use. The only exception to this rule is during a Study Hall period.
- *Individual Student Sign-Out* – computers will be made available for sign-out from 7:15-8:00am and from 2:45-4:00pm. Student must fill out the sign-out book and return the computers before the morning or afternoon time period is over.
- *Overnight Reservations* – students who require a computer to take home to complete assignments can do so. Please be aware that computers are limited and we will try to fulfill every request as best we can. All request for computers should be made with a guidance counselor.

#### *Google Account*

ALA students are given a Google account that is tied to their LPS ID Lunch number. We strongly encourage students to use this account given that many assignments are done through many of the Google Suites applications. Here is how to log-in to Google:

- Username – [12345@students.lawrence.k12.ma.us](mailto:12345@students.lawrence.k12.ma.us)
- Password – 00012345
- Replace "12345" with students' unique LPS ID number.

### **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Students are expected to maintain the highest level of academic integrity. When using ideas, words, and short passages from other people's writing, students are required to acknowledge the source. Failure to acknowledge the contribution of others is considered plagiarism. Submitting plagiarized work, failing to properly cite or fabricating sources, and any other academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will automatically result in a failing grade for the given assignment and further disciplinary action. Students will not be allowed to make up any plagiarized work for credit. Plagiarism includes copying directly from the Internet, a book or article, or another student's work (with or without their permission). In order to avoid these issues, students are encouraged to speak with any teacher or administrator if they have any questions (no matter how small) about their work or citing sources.

Students who are found to be academically dishonest will be subject to the following disciplinary action:

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense – Week of after-school detention.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense – In-school suspension.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> offense – Out of school suspension.
- 4<sup>th</sup> offense – Disciplinary Hearing at District Office (action to be recommended by hearing officer). At this point students may be disqualified from participating in Early College courses in their Junior or Senior year and/or placed on Academic Probation.

\*All offenses come with a grade of a "0" for the assignment in which the student was academically dishonest.

### **DETENTION PROTOCOL**

An ALA staff member will inform students if they have received an after-school detention. Detentions are usually served for infractions related to tardiness, uniform, and incidents related to behavior. Detentions will occur from 2:50-3:20pm daily and the location will rotate on a weekly basis. Students must be at the designated location by 2:50pm or they will not be allowed to serve their detention. As a consequence students will have to make up the detention they missed in addition to another day for arriving late.

**Physics helps us understand and describe the world around us. It demands that you ask questions, be curious, take risks, and learn from making mistakes. Throughout this class, I hope you will make connections to your own experience and realize that you can never escape physics.**