

Mr. Miller/Mr. Westfall

Applied Physics and Engineering (APE), 2017-18

Website: [westfallscience.weebly.com](http://westfallscience.weebly.com), [brianmillershhs.weebly.com](http://brianmillershhs.weebly.com) (you can link from one to the other)

**The Course:** This course is designed to teach basic concepts of high school physics, design, critical thinking, creativity, engineering, and engineering's place in society. Students will be introduced to STEAM (Science Technology Engineering Art & Mathematics) and grow the skills needed to succeed in such mathematically rigorous and technical fields as engineering, architecture, medicine, computer programming, mathematics, biology, chemistry and physics. This is a hands-on, project-based course that uses elements of design, mathematics, physics, trial and error, and re-trial to build and test a system that meets guidelines as presented by the instructor. Students will use creativity, collaborate with team members, and complete projects throughout the school year.

**Textbook:** Hewitt Conceptual Physics, 1999

A home version of the textbook will be provided for each student in the course. There will always be class sets available in the classroom as well.

**What you need:**

A three-ring binder with lots of binder paper, a graph lined composition book, and a pair of headphones or earbuds. You may keep your binder in the cabinet in the back of the room, but don't forget to take it home when you need to study. If you do choose to leave it in the back of the room, I cannot guarantee its safety. Leave it there at your own risk.

**How to do well in our class:**

You need to be in class everyday! Class time is when we give hints about what is important to study, when tests and quizzes will occur, when projects are due, etc. You will need to learn how to work in teams well together, including delegating work and splitting up the workload on projects. Every assignment goes towards your grade. In general, your grade is calculated using the following percentages: Projects and lab/project write-ups 60%, homework, exams and quizzes 30%, and the final exam 10%.

**Mr. Westfall/Mr. Miller's expectations:**

**Assigned seating-** You will be given an assigned seat on the first day of class. Please sit there everyday. It is the instructor's prerogative to change your seat at anytime.

**Respect-** Please do what we ask, do not talk when instructors are talking, and be positive. We do not like negative comments or behavior in our classroom. When arriving to class, check the board for any assignment, and begin working if possible. Talking or making noise during exams or quizzes could result in a zero grade for that assignment. All students have the right to learn in our classroom, and no one has the right to make distractions that take away from learning. You will be removed from our classroom if you take the opportunity of learning away from others.

**Late and Tardy-** Arrive to class on time. On time means in your seat when the bell rings. If you arrive up to 6 minutes after class begins, you will receive a detention from your teacher. After 6 minutes, the office will issue you a detention. This is a school-wide rule.

**Absent and make-up work-** You have the number of days you missed (if they are excused) to make up your work. If they are unexcused, you receive a zero for all days missed. It's your responsibility to find out what assignments you missed from a classmate or from me. This goes for tests and quizzes also. Turn in late work to the late work folder in the front of the room. Unexcused absences receive a zero for that day or assignment. You need to see me before or after class to get absent assignments, or to check your grades. We will not take class time to get your late assignments for you. This must be handled at a time outside of instructional time.

**Late work-** It is the science department's policy not to accept late work. If you forget your folder or notebook, you could receive a zero for that assignment. If something is due on a certain day, you

need to bring the assignment with you to class to turn in. You may not be allowed to go back to your locker to get the missed assignment.

**Cell phones and I-pods-** Not allowed unless authorize by instructors. There may be times when quiet work warrants the use of a music device. We will notify you when this is the case. We will follow the school policy for phones and I-pods. The first time they are confiscated, you will have to pick them up after school from the back office. The second time, a parent and guardian will need to pick them up. The third time, the school will keep the item for the rest of the year. Please do not try to get away with listening to I-pods/MP3s under your hair or hoods.

**Classroom talking-** Please do not talk when others are talking. Your excessive interruptions may result in you being sent out of the classroom, detention, or in-house detention.

**Eating-** Food and drink other than water is not allowed in the classroom. If you must eat, do so quickly outside the door. Please absolutely no food or drink around computers.

**Discipline Steps-** 1. You get a verbal warning to change your behavior.

2. Detention- regular or in house and a call home 3. Detention until we can meet with you and a parent or guardian to go over a class contract

4. Removal from class/office detention for the rest of the year.

**Assignments-**Assignments and exam/quiz announcements will be written on the board when they are given. It is your responsibility to check the board frequently.

**Contact Information-** We prefer email as our primary contact, and may be reached at [jwestfall@sonorahs.k12.ca.us](mailto:jwestfall@sonorahs.k12.ca.us) or [bmiller@sonorahs.k12.ca.us](mailto:bmiller@sonorahs.k12.ca.us) Mr. Westfall can also be reached at school 532-5511, ext 252, and Mr. Miller at 532-5511 ext 223. We will always attempt to return your call within 24 hours.

**Bathroom Policy-** At the beginning of the semester, you will receive a pass that will allow you to leave the room for five minutes each time. Fill out the pass in ink with your name and date before you have the teacher sign it each time. This minimizes interruptions. Each unused line on the pass is 5 points extra credit at the end of the semester.

*I have read and understand this syllabus.*

---

*Name of student (print)*

---

*Signature of student and date*

---

*Name of Parent or Guardian (print)*

---

*Signature of Parent or Guardian and date*