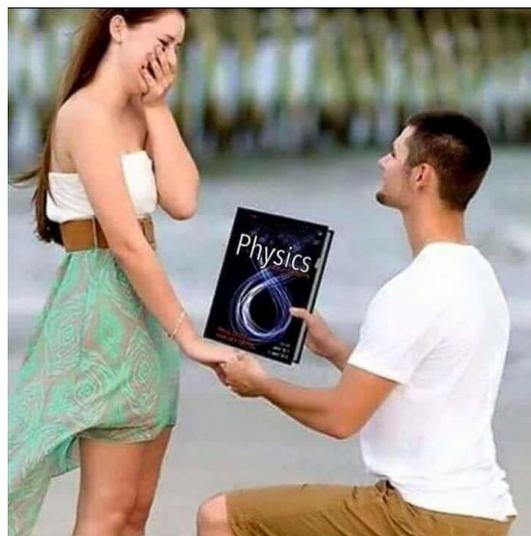
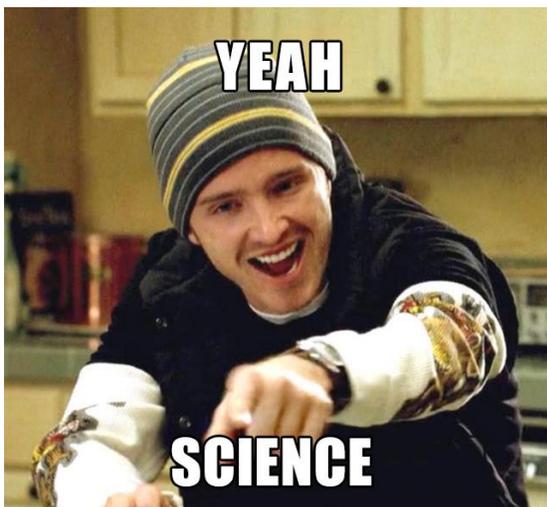


# Physics C AP Course Syllabus

Mr. Greenberg

Palos Verdes Peninsula High School



“I think it’s much more interesting to live not knowing than to have answers which might be wrong.” – Richard Feynman

## Welcome to AP Physics C

So, you signed up for a college level physics course with calculus designed for future engineers and physicists. AP Physics C is actually 2 AP courses with 2 AP Exams. First semester we’ll cover AP Physics C Mechanics. In a nutshell, we’ll learn about motion, from Newton’s Laws to planetary movement. Second semester is AP Physics C Electricity and Magnetism. We’ll cover electrostatics, circuits and magnetism.

## Materials you will need for this class

- Scientific calculator (Any calculator permitted by CollegeBoard is fine)
  - Sharing of calculators is prohibited during assessments
  - Programs and data may be checked and/or deleted at any time
- Metric ruler & protractor
- Graph paper (you can print your own online)
- Notebook or 3-ring binder for notes
- Pens, pencils and erasers (different colors are recommended)
- Textbook - Bring it every day unless there is a class set

## Grades – aka “How do I get an A?”

Simply put, you earn it. In addition to labs, lectures and other classroom activities, there will be some form of homework nearly every night. You must come to class prepared and be on task in order to succeed. It is also your responsibility to seek extra help when you need it.

### Grading Scale

**A** = 90.00% - 100% **B** = 80.00% - 89.99% **C** = 70.00% - 79.99% **D** = 60.00% - 69.99%

**F** = All scores below 60%

### Grading Breakdown

Tests & Quizzes = 60%

Homework & Labs = 30%

Participation & Being present and on task = 10%

### Grade Reporting

Grades are feedback. They are not a negotiation. Any request for a grade change should not expect a response. Grades will be updated periodically on Aeries. If you believe there is an error, print your Aeries grades and turn it in along with the graded assignment within one week of it being graded.

Me: I don't need to study  
Also me: \*Gets 14 on Physics test\*  
Me:



When your teacher won't round your  
39% to an A



“As our circle of knowledge expands, so does the circumference of darkness surrounding it.” – Albert Einstein

## **Classroom Policies**

### **Be on time & ready**

- 4th tardy – A referral is written and you are ineligible for any extra credit
- 7th tardy – A request is made that you be dropped from the class

### **Your work must be your own**

- All school policies on Academic Integrity apply

### **Laboratory Work – Safety First!**

- Labs and demos often contain sensitive or dangerous equipment. Do not touch the equipment without permission.
- You are responsible for replacement of any lost equipment or equipment damaged due to misuse.
- Improper use of lab/demo equipment may result in removal from the lab, a zero on the lab and/or disciplinary action.

### **Absences – Communication is key**

- Unexcused absences will earn a 0 for all assignments, labs and tests that day.
- Prearranged absences (college visits, sports, clubs, field trips, storming Area 51, etc.) must be communicated with Mr. Greenberg before the absence. If you do not make other arrangements with Mr. Greenberg, you will be expected to turn in all work and take all assessments during your absence **before** you leave.
- If you need to use the restroom, just grab the classroom pass. If you leave the room for other reasons without permission, you will be marked as absent.

## **Electronic Devices**

The classroom adheres to all District and School policies regarding electronic devices. There will be occasions, especially during labs, where use of a phone, tablet and/or computer will be helpful. Unless Mr. Greenberg explicitly states that electronic devices are permitted for classroom purposes, they must be off and away for the duration of class.

Improper use of electronic devices may result in a citizenship grade of “U” (Unsatisfactory) and/or disciplinary action.

## **Class Materials**

All materials provided for this class are copyrighted property of Mr. Greenberg and PVPHS. Copying or distribution of these materials without express written consent is prohibited.

## **AP Physics Assignments: Expectations and Guidelines**

- **ALL work must be your own. No exceptions.** The Academic Integrity, Cheating and Plagiarism Policies of Palos Verdes Peninsula High School apply to all assignments, labs, assessments and activities.
- Assignments are due in class when collected; usually at the beginning of class.
- All assignments that you have known about for 3 days or more must be turned in on the due date. If you are absent, make other arrangements to have them turned in on time.
- If you miss this class with an excused absence, but are able to attend school the same day, you are expected to complete all labs, quizzes & exams before the end of school that day.
- Late work is accepted for 0-24 hours after it is due. It will receive half credit. After 24 hours, late work will receive zero credit.
- There will be periodic, unannounced homework and note checks. No late credit will be awarded for these spot checks.
- Show all of your work, including the mistakes.
- Some students go to tutors, teachers or peers for extra help. While they are often helpful in learning the material, you cannot submit their work as your own.

### **Lab Expectations**

- Lab equipment is to be used for the purposes of the lab only.
- Pre-lab and data collection will be done in assigned groups. You should work with your group to run the lab and collect the data.
- Your analysis and conclusion are to be done individually.
- If you miss a lab with an excused absence, arrange a time with Mr. Greenberg to do the make-up lab. You must collect your own data. Copying data from a group member is not permitted and is considered plagiarism.

## **The AP Exam**

Physics C AP is two separate courses. First semester you will take Physics C AP Mechanics and second semester you will take Physics C AP Electricity & Magnetism. In May you will take an AP Exam for each course. You will be given an equation sheet and be permitted use of a scientific calculator on all parts of both exams.

All students are expected to take the AP Exam. Students who do not take the AP Exam will have the AP designation removed from their transcript.

You may qualify for a grade change based on your AP Exam score if you average an A on your homework, have fewer than 4 tardies and...

- A score of a 5 can improve a semester grade (Mechanics is 1<sup>st</sup> semester, E&M is 2<sup>nd</sup> semester) by one full letter.
- A score of a 4 can improve one semester grade lower than a B (Mechanics is 1<sup>st</sup> semester, E&M is 2<sup>nd</sup> semester) by one letter grade.
- Your grade will remain unchanged for all other AP scores.

## **Greenberg's Physics Tips**

- Bring the best of yourself each day. Nobody can ask more of you than your best.
- The school year is a marathon, not a sprint. Don't be like pancakes: All exciting at first, but by the end, you're sick of them.
- Embrace the challenge. This class can be tough at times. The learning and growing you'll experience will be a worthwhile endeavor.
- Build your physics stamina like you would build athletic stamina. Practice a bit every day instead of cramming all of your work into one long session.
- Have fun with this class. You have to be here about 180 times between now and June. Why not make the best of it?