

Physical Science
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Texts and Other Materials:

Conceptual Physical Science Explorations

Materials Needed For Class:

- Notebook or binder for class notes and class work; binder with loose-leaf paper is preferred
- Book cover (book should always be covered)
- Writing utensils (pen, pencil, grading pen)
- Colored pencils
- 1 box of tissues OR 1 roll of paper towels (to be turned in the first week of school with student's name written on it)
- iPad (used only when instructed to do so)

Course Description:

Conceptual Physical Science melds physics, chemistry, earth science, and astronomy in a manner designed to captivate student interest. Central concepts set the foundation for serious study of the life sciences which follow next year. Study will begin with physics followed by chemistry, earth/space science. Concepts are presented in both a factual manner and studied through guided inquiry to develop learning skills, organizational skills, and critical thinking skills of all students.

Course Content:

- 1- Introduction to Science / Scientific Method and Measurement
 - Chapter 1
- 2- Mechanics
 - Chapters 2-8
- 3- Heat
 - Chapters 9-10
- 4- Electricity and Magnetism
 - Chapters 11-12
- 5- Waves – Sound and Light
 - Chapters 13-16
- 6- The Atom
 - Chapters 17-20
- 7- Chemistry
 - Chapters 21-29
- 8- Earth Science / Environmental Science
 - Chapters 30-38
- 9- Astronomy
 - Chapters 39-40

Due to the constraints of time, all chapters will not be covered in detail. However, students will be held responsible for material covered in chapters as they are assigned.

Course Outcomes:

After completing the high school science curriculum, students will be able to:

- Identify questions and concepts that guide scientific investigations;
- Design and conduct scientific investigations;
- Use technology and mathematics to improve investigations and communications;
- Formulate and revise explanations and models using logic and evidence (critical thinking);
- Recognize and analyze explanations and models; and
- Communicate and support a scientific argument.

Course Calendar:

There will typically be a test consisting of multiple choice, matching, document/graphical analysis, and essay after every chapter. There may also be one reflection paper assigned during each quarter over various topics. Labs and lab activities will be done in class, the purpose of which will be to demonstrate or investigate material being studied in class. There will be a semester and final exam. There will also be regular reading and other assignments as well as quizzes deriving from the text and class discussion. All assignments will be posted in class and on Progress Book daily. Various projects may be assigned. Instructions for projects will be posted online and distributed to students when appropriate.

Course Strategies:

To be successful in this class, students need to come to class daily bringing all required materials and having completed the reading assignments and/or homework. Students will succeed if they take good notes, ask questions, and display necessary effort in learning. Physical Science students are successful because they read the text when assigned, complete their work on time, prepare well in advance for tests/quizzes, and, most of all, put forth effort every day in class by paying attention and being actively involved in class work. ***When absent, it is the student's responsibility to make up work. By using their iPad to search on Progress Book, students can find what was done in class and what work is due upon their return to school.***

Class Expectations:

- All students are required to bring all materials, including a **notebook/binder, text, their iPad, and writing utensils** every class period.
 - Students **will NOT** be allowed to go to lockers to get materials they did not bring to class. This includes work that is due at the beginning of class.
- Assignments will be due at the beginning of class. All work should be turned in to the designated turn-in tray after the tardy bell rings. **Students are allowed 1 late assignment without consequence each quarter. *In general, late work is not accepted.***
 - Absence – work due the day the student is absent is due the day he/she returns to school. Students need to check Progress Book for assignments and work done in class when they are absent.
 - All work will be posted on Progress Book. It is the student's responsibility to find out what was done in class, what work is due, and when it is due.
 - iPads should go home with the student each day. If they are absent, they can still keep up with assignments at home and nothing should be late when they return to school.
 - Students should meet with the teacher the day they return to be sure they receive any instructional materials they may have missed during their absence.
- There will be a **semester exam** and **end-of-year exam** as well as several quizzes and smaller tests throughout the course. Students will be informed of a test a few days prior to its administration. Pop Quizzes are rare but possible. Quizzes will usually be administered after a lesson, and a test will normally be given after a chapter.
 - Absence – if a student is absent on the day of a test or quiz, they will be expected to make up the test or quiz the day they return to school; study hall, before or after school works best.
 - Students must make it a habit to see all teachers to make arrangements to take make-up tests/quizzes the day they return to school and, if necessary, prepare to stay after school to complete this work.
 - If more than one day is missed, other arrangements will be made, but the student must see the teacher the day they return to school to make these arrangements.
- Students will be respectful of all school property and the property of other students at all times.
 - If a student damages school property, they will be financially responsible for its replacement and may have disciplinary consequences as well.
 - If a student damages another student's property, they will be financially responsible for its replacement and there will be disciplinary consequences.
 - Disciplinary measures taken could include demerits, detention, and/or removal from class.
- Students will be silent during announcements, when others are speaking, and during prayer at the beginning of each class.
 - Talking during announcements, when others are speaking, or during prayer will result in disciplinary action that could include loss of participation points, demerits, detentions, and/or removal from class.
- Students will actively participate in all class work without being disruptive and will follow lab safety rules when participating in labs.
 - Non-participation will result in loss of participation points and/or demerits.
 - Sleeping in class will result in detention and/or removal from class.**
 - Breaching lab safety rules or lab instructions will result in expulsion from the lab and a 0 grade for that lab.
 - If this occurs more than once, the student will not be allowed to participate in class labs and will have to make up work as assigned.
 - Students are expected to remain attentive in class. **Working on other assignments / preparing for other classes will not be tolerated during Biology class.**
 - Loss of participation points, demerits, detentions, loss of work (for the other class) may result.

Grade Components:

I will be using the Lima Central Catholic grading scale (found in the student handbook) to determine grades and grades will be weighted as follows:

Tests / projects = 50%

Quizzes / labs = 30%

Assignments = 15%

Pop quizzes / participation / in class work / completion = 5%

Extra credit will NOT be given to “boost” grades. Extra / optional assignments may be given, but will be offered to the entire class and graded as any other assignment. There is no guarantee that a completed extra assignment will receive an “A”.

Please let me know if you are struggling in the class....before material is tested and before the end of a grading period. Use study halls to get help when you struggle. National Honor Society students are generally available on Thursdays after school for tutoring. I will also be available before and after school and by appointment. Please feel free to approach me if/when you have a problem, including emailing me in the evening if you have questions. My door is always open and I urge that you come and see me with any concerns. I am looking forward to a great year. Let's work together to make your year in Physical Science an enjoyable experience!!

--Ms. Schenk