

SYLLABUS AND COURSE INFORMATION—SPRING 2010
PHYSICAL SCIENCE
WHITE HOUSE HERITAGE HIGH SCHOOL

Instructor: Mr. Andrew Larson

Email Address: andrew.larson@rcstn.net

Text: Holt Science Spectrum: A Physical Approach

Lab Fee: \$15

Course Description: We will be using the internet, text, library, labs, video, discussion and notes, etc. to study Physical Science. We still study the topics of Physical Science according to the order of the chapters in the text:

Chapter 1—Introduction to Science	Chapter 13—Electricity
Chapter 2—Matter	Chapter 14—Magnetism
Chapter 3—Atoms and the Periodic Table	Chapter 15—Communication Technology
Chapter 4—The Structure of Matter	Chapter 18—The Atmosphere
Chapter 5—Chemical Reactions	
Chapter 6—Solutions, Acids, Bases	
Chapter 7—Nuclear Changes	
Chapter 8—Motion and Forces	
Chapter 9—Work and Energy	
Chapter 11—Waves	
Chapter 12—Sound and Light	

We may skip a chapter if we run out of time. Even so, this is roughly one chapter every week. Hence, I will give a test over each chapter every week or so.

Homework assignments will be posted on the whiteboard every day. In general, you will have 2-3 homework assignments per week. If you WORK in class, you will probably not have much true homework.

Requirements of Students

1. **Each student will be required to maintain a 120+ page notebook in this class!** This notebook will be used to take notes, do homework, write journal entries, etc. It should be brought to class EVERY DAY! (Worth 30 pts per nine weeks)
2. Each student must bring his/her text to class EVERY DAY.
3. Demonstrate responsibility—Attend class, be on time, come prepared.
4. Show respect for yourself and others. I WILL NOT TOLERATE HARRASMENT OF OTHER STUDENTS.
5. Demonstrate integrity—no cheating.

Behavior/Discipline

I don't anticipate problems in my classroom. We will be very busy and students must stay on task to pass. If behavioral problems arise, consequences will be consistent with policies outlined in the student handbook. If you are asked to leave my classroom, you will lose credit for any assignment given that day (even if you were finished with the assignment) on top of any disciplinary action taken.

*One thing I will **NOT** tolerate is mistreatment of substitutes. Consequences for mistreating a substitute will begin with detention, an apology letter, and a call to a parent.*

Make-Up Work

If your absence is excused (legal), I will follow the make-up policy in student handbook. If you feel you need more time, talk to me about it. I may grant you more time—depending on the circumstances. All assignments will be placed on the table near the door, or if it is an assignment out of the book, it will be written on the back whiteboard.

Grading System

In this class, I will tell you (it will usually be written on top of page) how much each assignment is worth before you are required to complete the assignment. In general, tests will be worth 25 points, quizzes 5 points, labs (including computer labs) 5-10 points, and the final approximately 60 points. **There will be TWO finals**—one at the end of the first nine weeks, the other at the end of the course.

Again, I will tell you in advance how much each assignment is worth. It is extremely important that you finish your homework each day. I will usually allow some time in class to work on homework.

At the end of each nine weeks, I will add the total number of points you have earned and divide this number by the total number of points possible. This percentage will then be submitted to the office as your grade. Your grade will be updated every week or so on engrade. It is your responsibility to check it.

EXAMPLE (you will have many more scores):

Points Possible:	5	30	5	5	5	5	9	5	3	30
Points Earned:	4	25	5	5	4	5	9	4	3	28

Total Possible: 102

Total Earned: 92

Grade submitted to office: 92/102 or 90% (B)

Extra Credit

There will be limited opportunities for extra credit throughout the semester. In general, extra credit will be worth 5-10 points. If you would like some extra credit, and you have an idea (anything science related will be considered), run it by me first.

My Contact Information

You and/or your parents are welcome to come in after school and discuss your progress in my class. I will be at school until 3:15 each day. If you have questions or problems or you or your parents wish to speak to me after school hours, please email me or call me at home before 10 pm or after 6 am, 7 days a week: 672-7378. You may also communicate with me through engrade.

Parent/Guardian signature and date _____

THIS SYLLABUS WORTH 5 EXTRA CREDIT POINTS IF SIGNED BY A PARENT/GUARDIAN AND TURNED BACK IN TO ME BY JAN 22, 2010.

Updated: 01/07/10

This syllabus also available online: <http://www.rcstn.net/whhs/homepage>