

Physical Science Syllabus

ROOSEVELT
HIGH SCHOOL

Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve



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What is science?



Is my phone charger broken? Or does this outlet just not work? If you've ever tried to figure this out, congratulations, you have done SCIENCE! Science is curiosity about the world and how it behaves. Science uses **observation** and **experiment** to answer our questions about the physical world.

What are we going to learn?

First Semester	Quarter 1	Unit 0: Introduction to Science
	Quarter 2	Unit 1: Motion & Forces
Second Semester	Quarter 3	Unit 2: Energy & Electricity
		Unit 3: Atomic Structure & Nuclear Decay
	Quarter 4	Unit 4: Atoms & Chemistry
		Unit 5: Chemical Reactions
		Unit 6: Astronomy

What supplies will we need?

We will be responsible for have these things with us **every day**:

- a one-inch three-ring binder
- writing materials (pens or pencils)

What are the expectations for the learning environment?

In order for all students to meet the expectation of success in all classes and to create an enjoyable, positive, friendly and fun learning environment, we will:

Be Here

Be Engaged

Be Supportive

Be Safe

What is the behavior policy?

We want students to fix mistakes they make and repair any hurt or damage that they cause. As such, non-punitive corrections will be made whenever possible. When necessary, we will collaborate with school counselors, social workers, and deans regarding these matters. We will also collaborate with Check and Connect regarding absences and tardies when possible.

Can I use my phone?

Students are expected to be engaged and productive with class activities. Cell phones, tablets, other electronics, music players, and **headphones** often distract students from the learning, and are **not permitted** unless special permission is given.

There are no verbal reminders or warnings. If you are not able to honor this expectation:

1. Dean holds the phone until the end of the day
2. Administrator holds the phone

Rarely, we may use cell phones with teacher permission for specific class activities

Is attendance important?

According to The Consortium on Chicago School Research at the University of Chicago, "Freshmen who miss more than two weeks of school flunk, on average, at least two classes—no matter whether they arrive at high school with top test scores or below-average scores. In fact, freshmen who arrive with high test scores but miss two weeks of school per semester are more likely to fail a course than freshmen with low test scores who miss just one week" (Fall 2007).

What if I'm late to class?

Our timeliness to class is a key factor in our academic success.

If you are late, go to room 261 to get a late pass.

If you have been meeting with a Roosevelt staff member, you need a written pass from them.

If you are not able to get to class on time, we need to talk about it about why this is happening.

Ask what you missed! Find copies of missing assignments in the room and online. ↓
<http://roosevelt.mpls.k12.mn.us/abbott>

What if I'm absent?

If you are missing classes regularly we will have conversations about what is keeping you from getting to school with you and your family. We also may refer you to Check and Connect for more support in that area. Also, refer to student handbook for school policy and state law.

What does plagiarism have to do with academic integrity?

Plagiarism is when students knowingly present another person's language or ideas (or paper) as if it was their own work. Plagiarism includes using the words, ideas, answers, or works of another writer without providing clear acknowledgement of the original author and accurate citation. If you cut-and-paste various sentences found at a number of different web sites and/or works, and incorporate them into your essay without properly citing them, this is still plagiarism.¹

Plagiarism is a serious problem and will be dealt with accordingly.

¹ Brown, Paola. *Avoid Plagiarism!* Mesa Community College, Web. August 2014.

What if I am struggling in Physical Science?

The best way to improve your science skills is by coming to class on time, being engaged, and asking questions. If you need more help, the AVID elective class offers a good opportunity to study and improve your science skills. Additionally, Abbott, Dowling, and the other 9th grade science teachers also offer after school help days. If Abbott (room 230) or Dowling (room 313) are unavailable, feel free to ask Mr. Neufeld (238), Ms. Vásquez (241), or Ms. MacNeven (359).

How are our assignments graded in Physical Science?

Most assessments will be based around a Learning Target, and graded on a scale of 0 – 4:

No Attempt	No Progress	Progress!	Proficiency!!	Mastery!!!
0	1	2	3	4
<i>0% F</i>	<i>25% F</i>	<i>50% F</i>	<i>75% B-</i>	<i>100% A</i>

How do our class grades work in Physical Science?

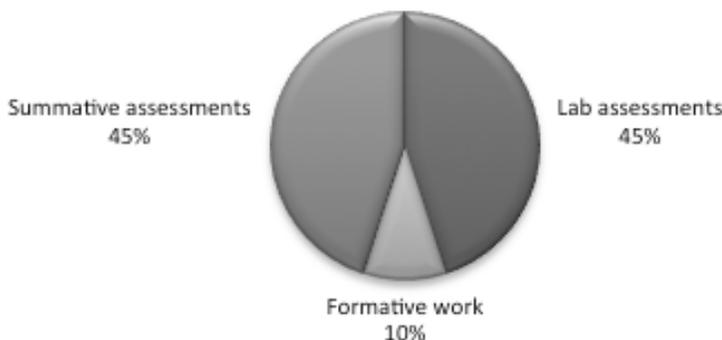
Grades are based on a percentage of total points earned. Our scale is used as follows:

[does not exist] A+	83% B+	71% C+	59% D+
>91% A	79% B	67% C	55% D
87% A-	75% B-	63% C-	51% D-
			<51% F

How much are assignments worth in Physical Science?

Science work fall into 3 categories, each worth a percentage of the grade:

45% Summative assessments <i>(projects, quizzes, etc.)</i>	45% Lab assessments <i>(lab reports, lab projects, etc.)</i>	10% Formative work <i>(homework, classwork)</i>
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Even though homework and classwork are only 10% of your grade, it is critically important to practice your science skills with these assignments. Improving these skills will improve how well you do on your summative & lab assessments.