

AP PHYSICS II

Instructor: Mr. Mark Merz

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AP Physics II is equivalent to a rigorous college level calculus based mechanics course for engineering and physics majors. The curriculum demands mature, intelligent, well prepared and very strong highly motivated students. Students must have a strong work ethic, and be willing to commit a large amount of time and effort, and to make Physics II a major priority.

Curriculum

AP Physics II is a year-long course. The entire AP Physics II (or Physics I, or Physics C Mechanics, depending on the student's previous courses and need) curriculum, as described on the AP website, will be taught. Students are expected to work a great deal outside of class. Students can benefit a great deal working in productive study groups, and working with online AP Physics resources. Honors Physics I is a pre-requisite and AP Calculus is a co-requisite for AP Physics II.

Falling behind in the course can compound itself very quickly. Physics II is primarily driven by student activity and small group interaction, with minimal lecturing. Students find it very difficult to make up lost ground. Even students who have been very successful to date generally need to make adjustments to their studying approaches in order to deal with the demands of Physics II.

Cost & Benefits

Students will be required to take the AP exam in May at their own expense. The cost is approximately \$90.

Not all schools, and not all departments, treat AP credits the same way. Some departments, particularly engineering, physics, and math departments, do not give credit and placement for AP Physics II. Some give credit but require the student to retake the course in college; some give credit and allow the student to be placed in the course following Physics II. College credit and/or placement are certainly not the only benefit or factor to be considered in deciding which AP classes to take. However, if it is important to you, you should contact the schools and departments you expect to be considering to clarify their rules.

AP PHYSICS II CONTRACT

AP Physics II is equivalent to a rigorous college level calculus based mechanics course for engineering and physics majors. The curriculum demands mature, intelligent, well prepared and very strong highly motivated students who are willing to commit a large amount of time and effort, and to make Physics II a major priority.

This contract expresses the student's commitment to the demands of the course.

Curriculum

AP Physics II is a year-long course. The entire AP Physics II curriculum will be taught. Physics II offers the opportunity to become a better learner. Students can expect to use and expand on what they have learned in other physics and math courses. Honors/AP Physics I is a prerequisite and AP Calculus is a co-requisite for Physics II.

Cost

Students will be required to take the AP exam in May at their own expense. The cost is approximately \$90

Attendance

Attendance for class is MANDATORY. Physics II is primarily driven by student activity and small group interaction, with minimal lecturing. This, along with the fast pace, intensity, rigor and dependence of each class on preceding classes make it virtually impossible to be successful, or to make up lost ground, with more than a very small number of absences. The class is being taught as a college level class. Absences in excess of 12 for the entire year may result in the course status being dropped from AP to ACP. ANY non-retreat absence will count toward these 12 or more. Many students will encounter significant difficulty with total absences significantly fewer than 12.

Carefully read each of the following terms. Initial each item in the space provided. When finished, sign and date the contract and return to Mark Merz, prior to noon on May 4, 2018.

_____ I understand that if I do not wish to take AP Physics II during the next academic school , I must drop by May 11. Otherwise, I will be unable to drop.

_____ I understand that there will be summer assignments to be completed for this course

_____ I understand that learning to be a better learner is a primary goal and benefit of this class. Working independently, learning for myself, time management, organization,

self-discipline, preparation and responsible choices will be essential to my success in this class

_____ I understand that I must make constructive use of many resources to be successful in this class

_____ I understand that I am primarily responsible for my success in this class.

Current GPA: _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Accepted with waiver

_____ Signed waiver attached

AP Teacher _____

_____ Accepted

AP Teacher _____