

Physical Science - Fall 2025

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Welcome to Physical Science! Physical Science is designed to introduce you to the disciplines of Physics and Chemistry. Below are some of the class expectations. This is a living document, subject to change according to the class' needs.

Class rules: Eating, drinking (other than non-flavored water) and cellphone use is not allowed. We will be following the school's Wireless Communication Devices Policy. Students will not have cellphones, earbuds/headphones, smart watches, etc. out during class unless we are using them directly for instruction, with my permission. **Any** cellphone usage during a test or quiz will be considered cheating. Student laptop use may be monitored and restricted during class. Students are expected to participate in all activities and take responsibility for their own learning.

Attendance: Students are expected to be in class, on time, each day we meet. **Work from unexcused absences or unexcused tardies cannot be made up.** For excused absences/tardies, students are 100% responsible for any missed work. I will not be able to provide reminders. Be prepared to make up any missed assessments on the day of your return. Other assignment deadlines will be determined by me on a case-by-case basis.

Grading: All grades are to be found in Infinite Campus. You should check your Infinite Campus grades regularly. Not all assignments will be graded and not all graded assignments will go into Infinite Campus. Assessments (mainly tests & quizzes) are worth 50% of your class grade. Labs, classwork, etc. are worth 50%. Projects will be placed into an appropriate category when assigned. Take home assignments are due at the START of class. Assignments submitted late will receive a 10% deduction per day, for three days. After three days assignments may not be accepted for credit. Unexcused absences during that three-day period will factor into the penalty.

Extra credit and bonus points are occasionally offered to the whole class. No individual extra credit will be available. If needed on a whole-class level, test retakes may be given. In order to be eligible for any grade bonus or second-chance opportunity, students must have demonstrated complete participation during the associated unit. This means all assignments must have been completed, students did not need multiple reminders to put away distractions, stop being a distraction or otherwise remain on task, and there are not multiple unexcused absences and tardies. Extra opportunities may not be available for **students that were absent** on the original assignment date, or the day we complete the opportunity. This will apply to both excused and unexcused absences.

Instruction: Students' primary resource for class will be their lecture notes. Students should expect to take notes daily. We will occasionally use school-issued laptops in class and at home during this course. All laptops should be charged nightly. We will begin the course with our Physics instruction and cover Chemistry during the second quarter. For specific topics covered, please refer to the NC Essential Standards found on the NCDPI website.

Academic dishonesty: Submitting work that is not 100% your own is considered academic dishonesty. This includes ChatGPT/AI. Copying assignments and/or allowing others to copy your work is also considered to be cheating. Plagiarism is submitting ideas that are not completely your own. Any sort of academic dishonesty will result in an ungraded assignment, a written referral and notification sent to coaches and honor society advisors. Assume that *every* submitted assignment is to be completed 100% independently unless I have specifically stated otherwise.

I am excited about getting to know you this semester. Please be sure to reach out if you need any extra support!

Mrs. Coston