

Honors/AP Physics

Mr. DaCorte

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The mission of the Mount Desert Island High School community is to provide a safe, supportive environment in which all members are held to high academic and ethical standards. The faculty, staff and administration, supported by the community, guide students as they acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to become responsible, self-directed learners and healthy, productive citizens.

Course Standards

The course standards for Physics correspond to the units of study. Note that these units will be learned over the course of a year. In general, the list below shows the order in which the units will be learned. Completion of Honors Physics and Advanced Placement Physics will put you on track to take the AP Physics 1 exam.

Kinematics
Newton's Laws
Energy
Momentum
Circular Motion
Simple Harmonic Motion
Rotational Motion
Fluids

Class Preparation

Bring a notebook labeled "Physics", a pen or pencil, a calculator, and your computer to every class.

Classroom Expectations

Classmates Be respectful

Equipment Be respectful

Leaving the Classroom One at a time with a pass

Electronics Put them away when class starts. Use them only when appropriate. Quiz-What personality type is good at multitasking?

Grading

Your grade will be broken into three categories according to the following percentages. Your score for each category will be based on the average of all of the assignments within the category.

Category	Composed of...	Percentage of Grade
Major Assessments	Tests, Lab Reports, Scientific Articles	70%
Minor Assessments	Quizzes, Projects, Miscellaneous	20%
Final Exam		10%

Standards for Each Assignment Type

Standard	Tests	Lab Reports	Scientific Articles	Final Exam
Ask Questions			X	
Develop and Use Models	X			X
Plan and Carry Out Investigations	X	X		X
Analyze and Interpret Data	X	X		X
Computational Thinking	X			
Construct Explanations	X			X
Engage in Argument from Evidence			X	
Obtain, Evaluate, Communicate Information			X	
Content	X			

Try Again

	How to earn the “try again” opportunity?	What is the “try again” opportunity?	What happens with the “try again” score?
Tests	Earn an average score of 3.25 or higher on all Computational Thinking Quizzes.	Final Exam	The final exam can replace the standard scores for the standards assessed on the final exam.
Lab Reports	Turn in all lab reports on time and earn a minimum score of 2 on all standards assessed.	An additional lab report.	The scores on the additional lab report can replace previous lab report scores. Note that if you choose to have the scores replace your previous scores, both scores will be replaced.
Scientific Article	Turn in all scientific articles on time and earn a minimum score of 2 on all standards assessed.	An additional scientific article.	The scores on the additional scientific article can replace previous scientific articles scores. Note that if you choose to have the scores replace your previous scores, all three scores will be replaced.

End of Unit Routine

Days Relative to Test	What happens in class
-3	Test review handed out and practice multiple choice questions assigned on AP Classroom
-2	First 40 minutes of class: work time in class Last 20 minutes of class: Computational Thinking Quiz (4 multiple choice questions from the unit problem set)
-1	Work time in class
0	In Class: 4 Free Response Questions Flextime: 10-15 multiple choice questions on AP Classroom.
+1	Begin individual conferences

Use of AI

In this course, students may use AI tools (such as ChatGPT, Gemini, or Khanmigo) for learning support, but their use must be **aligned with educational goals**. Misuse of AI may be treated as **academic dishonesty**.

Acceptable Uses	Unacceptable Uses
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Getting help understanding concepts (e.g., Newton's laws, circuits, Bernoulli's principle)• Checking or explaining a problem set problem after attempting them independently	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Using AI to generate lab reports or scientific articles• Using AI to do graded work that's meant to reflect personal learning• Using AI to answer test questions