

ERHS Physics of The Universe

Class Syllabus

General Information:

A. Course: **Physics of The Universe A and B (P)**

B. Instructor: **Mr. Rodriguez**

Email: crodriguez@righetti.us

Phone: (805) 937-2051 ext. 2111

Webpage: <http://crodriguez.righettiscience.com>

Canvas: <https://smjuhsd.instructure.com/login/saml>

I do not answer my phone during class, so I encourage email as a primary form of communication.

C. Text (s): ***Holt Earth Science: California Edition*** (digital copy available online)

Course Description:

This is a year long course designed to introduce and study the following aspects of physical science:

Physics: force and motion, forces at a distance, energy, nuclear processes, waves, electronic and magnetic phenomena.

Earth Science: Earth's place in the universe, renewable energy sources, dynamic earth processes, and California geology.

Investigation and experimentation: Lab procedures, the metric system of measurement, the use of technology for data collection and communication

Required Materials:

- Students are expected to have their **internet access, tablet, paper, and writing utensil** for class every day.
- STRONGLY Recommended** but not required is a scientific calculator.

Posting of Homework: Homework is posted to the internet on canvas.

Grading Procedures:

General: All written work is graded for neatness, completeness, accuracy, grammar and spelling. Oral participation is counted as described under "Participation" below. All work is assigned a point value. For example, most unit tests are assigned a value of 100 points and quizzes are normally 15 points. Homework and other class work are worth approximately 3 points each. At the end of the grading period, all points to date are totaled and a percent score is determined for each student by dividing the number of points the student earned by the number of assigned points possible. Letter grades are then assigned based on the following scale:

- 90 - 100 % of all possible points -----> A
- 80 - 89 % of all possible points -----> B
- 70 - 79 % of all possible points -----> C
- 60 - 69 % of all possible points -----> D
- Below 60 % of all possible points -----> Failing

Tests: Chapter tests will be given over each major unit and are always announced in advance. Tests are usually worth 100 points. Test scores are not based on a curve, but are adjusted for difficulty by basing the points possible upon the highest score earned on that particular test. A final exam may be administered at the close of each semester, covering work completed for the entire period.

Quizzes: Quizzes are given at the beginning of most weeks. Each quiz will normally be worth 15 points. Some quizzes may **not** be announced in advance and may simply cover the previous week's homework assignment.

Participation: Students will earn participation points for being on time, prepared for classwork, and following the online norms.

Lab Exercises: Lab exercises accompany most units and always will require a written report.

Homework: All assignments are given a week in advance. Each week, usually on Friday, assignments will be posted for the following week. **Homework assignments will be posted on the internet at the school's canvas website.** Homework assignments are to be submitted online. ***Copying of homework is considered cheating and will result in disciplinary action and/or loss of grade.*** This includes plagiarizing from online sources. Homework is not accepted late except as noted under ***Makeups*** below.

Extra Credit: Extra credit is not offered in this course.

Electronics: See citizenship below.

Office hours: Please plan on attending office hours if you are struggling with any of the course content. The second half of each office hour session will be dedicated to my physics of the universe (POTU) students, however the remaining time can also be used by POTU students if no AP students are in need of aide.

Makeups: Homework will not be accepted late for full credit unless the student is absent on the due week for illness or other **officially excused** absence. Work is expected to be turned in promptly upon the student's return to school. **Time is available before or after school if students need to make an appointment for extra help.** One make-up test will be given for each 6-week grading period. If you are taking this test, arrange a time to take it during office hours during the final week of the grading period. This will be a unit test covering all material assigned during the previous 6 weeks in class. The score earned on this test will be entered in place of all missed tests and quizzes. No other make up opportunities will be provided. Students not requiring make up tests or quizzes due to absences MAY take the test as a "retake" to supplant a less desirable score on a previous test for the grading period.

Discipline: Any necessary disciplinary action will be in accordance with the Ernest Righetti High School discipline policy, as described in the *Student Handbook*. Cheating of any sort will not be tolerated and result in a score of 0 on the assignment in question.

Attendance: Students are held accountable to the school attendance policy as outlined in the Student Handbook. Students who log in to the zoom meeting after the beginning of the assigned class time will be considered tardy.

Citizenship: Students at Righetti High are assigned a citizenship grade, either Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory, at each grading period. Students requiring disciplinary action can expect to receive an Unsatisfactory Citizenship grade.

Virtual Classroom Participation Norms

1. Please be prepared to participate and engage in the virtual classroom.
2. Keep microphone off until you are talking.
3. Set zoom name to YOUR name for attendance.
4. Please run the meeting on your school provided device (preferably not your phone).
5. Wear a headset (headphones, air pods, etc.) if you have one.
6. Ensure that you have an appropriate school/work background.
7. Be certain that you have a robust internet connection and adequate bandwidth. (if you have slow internet please disable non-academic programs and contact the district tech support)
8. Please keep your camera on if you are able, and if not please make your Zoom profile picture a photo of your face.
9. Do not respond to teacher prompts in the chat (unless directed)—turn on your mic and speak when prompted to. The leaders will not always see what is written in chat until later.
10. To speak, raise your hand on camera or use speaker queue.
11. No multitasking (YouTube, web-surfing, video gaming, streaming video, talking with others, etc.) See #7
12. Adhere to the daily schedule that is provided on the first day.

Breakout Room Participation Norms

1. Respect each other's opinions, ideas, contributions, etc....
2. Unmute yourself when in the small group (everyone is expected to speak and participate in group work)
3. In small groups, be mindful of group roles. Members of the group are expected to fulfill the following roles:
 - Timekeeper - The *timekeeper* to help move the group through the agenda.
 - Recorder – The *recorder* is someone who can listen and be objective and accurate. An effective recorder may write notes on their tablet and shares their screen for participants to see.
 - Reporter – The *reporter* serves as **group** spokesperson to the class or instructor, summarizing the **group's** activities and/or conclusions.
 - Facilitator - The *facilitator* helps the group focus, and assures that all may participate and that none dominate.

Make sure that everyone serves in these roles. You never know who will be called out to report on your group's work!

Digital Submission Norms

1. The work you submit must be your own! Even if you are working in a group. (see plagiarism policy)
2. If submitting handwritten (non-digital) work, please take a clear photo that is vertical and easy to read.

Create a digital signature for document or print/cut along this line, sign, and submit the stub to Mr. Rodriguez:

Student name: (PRINT) _____ Period: _____

After reading the above class information, please sign and return this part of the page to Mr. Rodriguez.

STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

I have read the preceding rules and guidelines for Mr. Rodriguez's PHYSICS OF THE UNIVERSE class and understand the contents.

student signature

date

parent signature

date