

**Welcome to Ms. Farragher’s AP Physics Class!**

1. **Materials**

**In order for us to be successful, we need to come to class PREPARED every, single day. We will work in both pen and pencil, but I do not have enough supplies to support the whole class. Please be responsible and make sure to have a writing utensil in class. We’re going to be doing lots of hands-on lab work so you’ll also need a bound, composition notebook in which to take notes and make observations. For handouts and homework, we’ll need a system to keep our papers NEAT. I will take time in class to have students hole punch their papers and add them to their folders. We will also be using packets of old AP free response questions for every unit which you will need to have neatly organized to access throughout the year. Based on the large amount of paper this will require, a binder is the best way to organize the packets.**

* + **1 pen or 1 pencil (minimum requirement)**
  + **one 1” three ring binder (required) $2.00-$5.00**
  + **1 composition notebook (required) 25¢-99¢**
  + **1 pocket folder with brass clasps in the middle (required) 25¢-75¢**
  + **Tipler “Physics for Scientists and Engineers” textbook (required)**
  + **scientific calculator (STRONGLY suggested) $9.99 at most stores**

1. **Grading Policy**
   * **Homework**
     1. **Homework is worth 10% of your grade in this class. Homework needs to be turned in at the beginning of class on the day after it is assigned. For each day that homework is late, 10 points will be taken off. Homework needs to be NEAT and COMPLETE. If an assignment is only half finished, or your paper has been crumpled up, I WILL NOT ACCEPT IT. Even if you do not understand an assignment, you need to make an ATTEMPT at an answer even if it is completely wrong.**
     2. **We will also be using an on-line program called “UT Quest.” We will spend in-class time creating your account so that you can turn in your assignments on-line. The service uses a database of thousands of AP practice questions that will get us ready for the exam. If you do not have a computer at home, I will be available and more than willing to stay after school so that you can use the computers in my room.**
     3. **Homework can and will make a difference in your grade. The summation of your homework grades contributes 10 points to your semester average. DO IT!**
   * **Daily Grades**
     1. **Daily grades are worth 30% of your class grade. Daily grades include informal or inquiry labs, quizzes, in-class assignments, group work, and informal presentations at the whiteboard.**
     2. **There will be a minimum of 10 daily grades per each six weeks.**
   * **Major Grades.**
     1. **Major grades account for 60% of your grade in this class. These include—but are not limited to—the benchmark assessment, half-way cumulative assessments, formal lab write ups, pre-assigned presentations or posters, and research projects.**
     2. **We will have two 45 minute Unit Tests approximately every 2 weeks which will be comprised of 3 AP free response problems.**
     3. **At the end of the 6 weeks we will have a “six week AP Test” which will mimic the AP exam format. It will be a two day test with the 30 multiple choice questions taking place on the first day and the 3 free response questions being tested on the second. There will be NO extra time given in order to simulate AP exam conditions.**
     4. **There will be a minimum of 3 major grades each six week grading period.**
2. **Major Procedures**
   * **Dress Code**
     1. **Students, I strictly enforce the Carver dress code. You need to come to class with**
        1. **Your ID on a LANYARD or on a visible part of your body.**
        2. **Your shirt TUCKED IN all the way around.**
        3. **Hats OFF your head. Hats are not allowed at Carver. If I see a hat, it will be CONFISCATED and you will be given an infraction (see below).**
        4. **Skirts of an appropriate length.**
     2. **If you do not have an ID you will be sent to purchase a temporary one. If you do not have money, you will be given an infraction (see below). Do not waste time showing up at my door without one.**
     3. **If you are NOT following these rules you will NOT be allowed in class.**
   * **Tardy Policy**
     1. **I am a stickler on Carver’s Tardy Policy.**
        1. **Period 1: As of 7:16am, after the tardy bell has sounded, you are TARDY to my class. Do NOT come to my door after 7:16am without a pass. This pass needs to be:**
           1. **a late bus pass**
           2. **a pass from the cafeteria**
           3. **a signed pass from Ms. Davila**
        2. **All other classes: If the tardy bell has sounded and my door has been shut, you are TARDY to my class. Do NOT come to my door after this point without a signed tardy pass from Ms. Davila.**
        3. **In addition to being marked “tardy,” and missing the Bellringer, this will earn you an infraction. It is IMPERATIVE that you are on-time to class. We can NOT afford to miss class and waste time running around to get passes. BE REPONSIBLE. Get to class ON-TIME. If you have to run, DO IT!**
   * **Bellringer**
     1. **The bell ringer is a way to motivate you to get to class on-time before the tardy bell. Every day there will be a warm-up question related to a review lecture given on the Friday of the previous week. As soon as you enter my classroom –with your ID on, shirts tucked in, and hats off—you will get out your folder out and answer the question as quickly as possible. When complete, you will raise your hand, and I or the student Bellringer manager will stamp your pre-made calendar if it is correct. At the end of each six weeks I will use your Bellringer calendar as an incentive to replace a low daily grade score for a 100. Students with 24 out of the 30 Bellringers correct will be allowed this opportunity.**
   * **In-Class**
     1. **Our classroom is very packed and we need as much space as possible to work at our desks. To ensure this, ALL DESKS need to be clear of backpacks, purses, and other belongings to ensure that we have a clutter-free, safe environment.**
        1. **I have provided a bin where you can put your belongings so they won’t have to be on the floor.**
   * **Permission to leave class**
     1. **When you’re not in class, you’re not learning. Our classes are extremely short and we need to maximize the amount of time we have, therefore I have created a pass system that we will go by.**
        1. **Every student has 2 pre-made hall passes for the ENTIRE SEMESTER. Reasons to use a hall pass include**
           1. **using the bathroom**
           2. **needing to see another teacher**
           3. **asking to go to the library**
        2. **You may use the passes at your own discretion, but I would keep in mind that you only have TWO. I will keep track of all of the passes and will have record of how many you have used.**
        3. **If you DO chose to use a pass, the date, time, destination, and time of return will all be indicated for you. When using this pass you will also be responsible for your class’s laminated, yellow Carver pass. Once the laminated pass is lost, your ENTIRE CLASS will have lost their privilege to leave class until the spring semester.**
        4. **If you are outside of the direction to your designated destination, or you do not come back within the time limit, you will be given an infraction (see below).**
        5. **USE WISELY!**
   * **Infractions**
     1. **An infraction will be given to a student when, and if, a student violates our classroom norms. Infractions include, but are not limited to,**
        1. **showing up to class without an ID and no means to get a temporary one**
        2. **showing up to class REPEATEDLY without an ID (even if temporary IDs were obtained)**
        3. **showing up to class after the tardy bell**
        4. **violating the “Return Time” on hall passes**
        5. **repeated disruption of the class after 2 verbal warnings have been given**
        6. **making rude or wise remarks about another student or myself**
        7. **sleeping in class after I have woken them up**
        8. **breaking of lab equipment**
        9. **using the computer, cell phones, MP3 players, or other electronics in-class**
     2. **A student will be required to sign the infraction and indicate a parent’s cell phone number.**
     3. **Parents will be notified the day an infraction is issued.**
     4. **The accumulation of THREE infractions results in an after school detention hall on Thursday afternoon.**
        1. **Failure to report to a detention hall will be considered outright defiance unless I am contacted by a parent to make other arrangements, and students will be referred to the Assistant Principal’s office for an after school detention hall given by the administration.**
   * **Science Fair**
     1. **Participation in our class science fair is MANDATORY. The science fair process will be spread out over several months—beginning in September—and will be counted as many daily and major grades up until November.**
        1. **Our in-class Science Fair will be held NOVEMBER 19, 2010.**
   * **Communication**
     1. **I am very open to you guys. If you have questions, comments, or concerns I would appreciate if you share them with me. You can communicate with me in several ways.**
        1. **My class web-site is** [**www.farragherssciencepage.weebly.com**](http://www.farragherssciencepage.weebly.com)**. Here you can submit a comment to me on the home page and it will go directly to my e-mail at home. I will also post assignments, notes, and other useful documents that will help you succeed in my class.**
        2. **I do have a Facebook account that you can friend me on. You may send me messages but EVERYTHING needs to remain school appropriate. I will not friend you. You can search for me as “Jill Farragher” and my profile should pop up.**
        3. **E-mail is always an excellent way to communicate with me. My school e-mail is** [**jefarragher@aldine.k12.tx.us**](mailto:jefarragher@aldine.k12.tx.us)**.**
        4. **Though I am providing this more for your parents, you may contact me via cell phone. Please do NOT send me text messages. I do NOT have an unlimited plan. I would rather you just call if you have a question. My number is (774) 287-9520. Please make sure to introduce yourself as I will not know who’s calling.**
3. **Supplemental AP Physics Information**
   * The AP Physics B Exam is 3 hours long, divided equally between a 70-question multiple-choice section and a free-response section. The two sections are weighted equally, and a single grade is reported for the B Exam. The free-response section will usually contain 6 or 7 questions.
   * **AP GRADE QUALIFICATION**

5 Extremely well qualified

4 Well qualified

3 Qualified

2 Possibly qualified

1 No recommendation

AP Exam grades of 5 are equivalent to A grades in the corresponding college course.

AP Exam grades of 4 are equivalent to grades of A–, B+, and B in college.

AP Exam grades of 3 are equivalent to grades of B–, C+, and C in college.

***PARENTS: For your student to receive credit that they have shown you my syllabus and that you have read it, please sign your student’s book form that I have sent home. Even if your student has already received a book, please fill out your information and sign it so your student can receive credit. This is how I am holding students accountable for checking out a book. The return of the signed book form will be worth a homework grade. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.***