

# Physical Science Syllabus – Spring 2024

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## Physical Science Course Description

Physical Science is a combination of introductory chemistry and physics. The chemistry part of the course examines different types of matter, solutions, atomic structure; patterns on the periodic table; chemical reactions; and nuclear reactions. The physics part of the course examines the laws of motion and energy and includes topics such as speed; acceleration; forces; energy transfer; waves; and electricity.

## Learning Goals and Objectives

Topics and learning objectives for this course are based on the N.C. Essential Standards for Physical Science. A copy of these standards can be found on the class homepage in Canvas.

## Pacing

- Scientific Skills – 2.5 Weeks
- Properties of Matter – 2 Weeks
- Atomic Structure – 2 Weeks
- Chemical Reactions – 2 Weeks
- Nuclear Reactions – 1 Week
- Motion and Forces – 3 Weeks
- Transfer of Energy – 1.5 Weeks
- Wave Energy – 2 Weeks
- Electrical Energy – 2 Weeks

## Textbook

Physical Science. Glencoe

## Science Fee

As with all science classes, there is a \$5.00 science fee, per county policy

## Materials

- Notebook Binder.
- General school materials: colored pencils, colored markers, scissors, glue sticks, and ruler.

## Attendance

Per school policy, students who miss more than 5 unexcused class days may not receive credit for the course. Students who are absent should check **This Week's Lesson in Canvas** to find the assignments they missed.

## Grades in Canvas

The official grade for each student will be the one in Power School, not Canvas.

## Category Weights in Power School for 4<sup>th</sup> Block

Various categories of assessments are weighted differently to reflect their levels of difficulty and to ensure students are held accountable for not only completing assigned work but also for actually learning the required concepts, as the class progresses. Category weights are as follows:

- Tests ..... 40%
- Quizzes & Labs ..... 30%
- Class Work ..... 30%

## **Category Weights in Power School for 2<sup>nd</sup> Block**

As a school requirement all 2<sup>nd</sup> blocks classes have a grade for Membeam incorporated into the grading system. Category weights are as follows:

- Tests ..... 40%
- Quizzes & Labs ..... 25%
- Class Work ..... 25%
- Membeam ..... 10%

## **Assignments in Canvas**

All assignments can be found in Canvas. If you are absent for any reason, go to the Homepage in Canvas, look for “This Week’s Lessons” and click on the link for that particular day. Per county policy, students have 10 class days (2 weeks) to make up work missed when they are absent.

## **Missing Work**

All missing assignments can be found by scrolling down on the Homepage in Canvas, clicking on the current unit, and then using the assignment date in Power School to help locate the individual assignment.

## **Final Exam for Physical Science**

At the end of the course, there will be an accumulative multiple-choice final exam that will count 25% towards the final grade. Students who miss two or less absences will be exempt from the exam.

## **Lab Safety Policy**

We will be working with some materials that can cause harm if not handled properly. Therefore, when completing labs, safety comes first. All students and their parent’s/guardians must sign a Lab Safety Contract before any student can take part in a lab. Students are expected to follow all specified safety procedures and lab rules.

Students who are absent from labs may be given an alternate assignment; considered exempt; or may be given the data collected by other students and still expected to turn in a lab write up.

## **Class Rules**

1. Be respectful and minimize disruptions to the class. (Raise hand to ask a question or leave your seat and limit side conversations during general class instruction).
2. No cell phones, air pods, ear pods, or headphones, etc... are to be out at all, period.
3. Please remain seated until the bell rings.
4. No hats or hoodies.
5. Clean up after yourself.

## **Consequences**

1. Disruptive class behavior will result in parent contact.
2. Continuation of disruptive behavior will result in an office referral.

## **Contact**

Students and parents may contact me at any time. The best form of contact, for me, is by email. I do check email on a consistent basis and will respond as soon as possible.