

**MVLA
2025-26
COURSE INFORMATION SHEET**

Course Title: AP Physics C: Mechanics / Electricity & Magnetism

School: Los Altos High School

UC/CSU requirement: Yes/Yes

Textbook and/or other learning resources: Fundamentals of Physics, Halliday & Resnick

Course Description/Student Learning Outcomes:

The purpose of this course is to teach students about classical Newtonian mechanics and to prepare them to successfully pass the College Board's Advanced Placement Physics C Mechanics exam. The curriculum for this course is determined by the College Board. Students will learn to build detailed mathematical models of the physical universe using algebra, trigonometry and introductory differential & integral calculus. Instructional approaches include demonstration, direct instruction, laboratory investigations, class discussions, problem solving of AP Physics Free Response Questions (FRQs), textbook work and AP exam type assessments. The Fall Semester is focused on Mechanics, while spring semester is dedicated to Electricity & Magnetism.

Course Outline/Units of Study/[CTE Industry Standards](#)(If applicable to your course):

The AP Physics C course studies kinematics, Newton's laws of motion, work & energy, uniform circular motion, rotational kinematics & torque, universal gravitation and oscillations.

Assessment and Grading ([BP 5121](#) / [AR 5121](#)): To ensure that every student has an equal opportunity to demonstrate their learning, the course instructors implement aligned grading practices and common assessments with the same frequency.

1. Grading categories and their percentage weights:

Tests & Quizzes: 70%
Labs & Assignments: 20%
Final: 10%

2. Achievement evidence collected within each grading category:

Tests and quizzes are formatted in free response and multiple choice questions.
Laboratory work combines pre-lab mathematical models with data collection and analysis using spreadsheets.
Classwork and Homework are formatted in free response and multiple choice prompts.
The final exam is formatted as a multiple choice exam using the College Board's AP Classroom.

3. Grading scales:

Letter grades in Aeries are assigned based on overall percentage:

A = 100-90%,
B = 89.9-80.0%,
C = 79.9-70.0%,
D = 69.9 – 60.0%,
F ≤ 59.9

4. Homework/outside of class practices ([AR 6154](#)):

Students should dedicate 60 - 75 minutes between each class period in a state of academic mental focus, not distracted by external stimulus, working towards mastery in physics by completing homework assignments.

5. Excused absence make-up practices ([Education Code 48205\(b\)](#)):

Students who know they will be missing class ahead of time must inform the instructor at earliest possible convenience to schedule any make-up work. All missed assignments are due within the same number of days as the absences. Unexcused absences are not covered under the above policy and will result in a score of zero.

6. Academic integrity violation practices ([LAHS Academic Integrity Policy](#)):

Honesty, trust and integrity are vital components of the education process. The Governing Board believes that academic honesty and personal integrity are fundamental components of a student's education and character development. The Board expects that students will not cheat, lie, plagiarize or commit other acts of academic dishonesty. Students and families should understand and act upon the values of academic integrity and should encourage the highest standards of academic behavior from themselves and their peers.

It is assumed that all work completed for a class is original work created for that class, for a specific assignment. Please refer to the Academic Integrity policy in the student handbook. For categories A and B, the "V" will be worth zero with no opportunity of point recovery. For violations in category C students will receive a failing grade in the course.

Below are examples of each category:

Category A: Minor Violations

This category involves violations related to smaller assignments such as classwork and homework.

Examples:

- Using an online answer key (either teacher-made or from a third party) and claiming the work as one's own.
- Using technology in an unethical manner to complete assignments, including but not limited to cell phone applications (such as PhotoMath, Mathway, Symbolab, etc.), use of Ai technology, and sharing pictures via social media websites.

Category B: Major Violations

This category involves violations related to major grade book entries such as quizzes, tests, projects, and final exams.

Examples:

- Sharing or requesting any information from a test with another student who has or has not taken the test.
- Unauthorized use of technology during an exam (e.g., cell phone, smart watch, etc.).
- Violating any assessment rule provided by the teacher within the parameters of the assessment.

Category C: Severe Violations

This category involves severe violations that compromise the integrity of the educational process.

Examples:

- Accessing a teacher's gradebook to alter grades.
- Stealing any assessment from the class that is not authorized by the teacher to leave the classroom.

7. Late work practices:

Unexcused late work is not accepted for full credit and will result in a zero.

8. Revision practices:

Students are encouraged to take advantage of the Academic Collaboration Time (ACT) prior to major assessments. Revisions on laboratory reports, other written assignments, major assessments and anything assigned through AP Classroom are not an option in AP Physics C.

9. Extra credit practices:

No extra credit will be given for this course.

10. Additional grading practices:

Students will be expected to collaborate during classwork and labs. Group work is to be considered an essential part of the learning experience, and that grades earned through group participation are to reflect an individual student's achievement on a designated academic standard and to be awarded to individuals rather than to groups of students.

11. LMS Used:

Canvas

Instructors' email addresses:

hector.arias@mvla.net

Additional information: