

# Physical Science Course Syllabus

Instructor: Mrs. Hilary Lane Room 1221

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**Course Description:** The Physical Science curriculum is designed to continue student investigations of the physical sciences that began in grades K-8 and provide students the necessary skills to have a richer knowledge base in physical science. The standards in this course are designed as a survey of the core ideas in the physical sciences. Those core ideas will be studied in more depth in the chemistry and physics courses.

More detailed information and current standards can be found at:

<https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Documents/Science-Physical-Science-Georgia-Standards.pdf>

## Course Content & Topics of Study:

### FIRST SEMESTER (Physical Science A)

- Safety & Scientific Processes
- Force, Mass & Motion
- Energy Transformations
- Waves; Light, & Sound
- Electricity & Magnetism

### SECOND SEMESTER (Physical Science B)

- Nature of Matter
- Atomic Structure & Radioactivity
- Periodic Table
- Chemical Bonding & Reactions
- Solutions
- Acids & Bases

## Required Materials

- **Textbook: Physical Science**
- 3-ring binder
- Notebook Paper
- Dividers (Set of 12)
- Pencil, Pen (blue or black ink)
- Dry Erase Markers
- Scientific Calculator (*TI-30 series is preferred & can be used in future Chemistry & Physics classes*)
- Colored Pencils, Highlighters, Notecards (*Optional*)
- Box of Kleenex or Hand Sanitizer to be used in our classroom (*Optional*)

## Grading

Grades will be updated weekly and available to parents and students via the infinite campus parent portal. Students and parents should check grades regularly. This course includes a cumulative exam at the end of each semester.

Major Assessments	45%
Daily Work	15%
Minor Assessments	20%
End of Semester Assessment	20%

## Tutoring

For the 2024-25 school year, tutoring is available on Tuesday and Thursday from 7:15 a.m.-7:45 a.m. in room 1221. Additional opportunities will be provided during SOAR sessions throughout the semester.

## Honor Code

The academic integrity of courses at VHS is of the utmost importance; as such, cheating or academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. If a student cheats or plagiarizes on any assessment, the result is a zero as a placeholder until the student has had the opportunity to demonstrate learning on an alternate assignment. The teacher will make a parent contact.

If cheating or plagiarism occurs on a major assessment, the student will be referred to an administrator for review. Cheating or plagiarism on a major assessment will also result in alternative discipline or in-school suspension. The ISS assignment will be progressively graduated if the offense is repeated.

### VHS Retesting Policy

Students may re-take two major assessments per semester, after completing tutoring/corrections, except those assessments where cheating occurred. A re-test cannot replace a zero for a task never initially completed.

### SSO Portal/ Office 365

Each student has their own log-in provided by the school system that can be accessed by going to [www.hcbe.net](http://www.hcbe.net) and clicking on the SSO portal link. Office 365 and Canvas are among the tiles located on the SSO portal.

### Canvas

Canvas is a digital learning platform, which teachers use to interact with their students online. Teachers use this tool to distribute assignments and send feedback to students. To use Canvas, students may use any device that can access the internet. To encourage blended learning, online assignments will be posted through Canvas and periodically entered in Infinite Campus. Students should be familiar with how to navigate the online platform, communicate with their teacher, and submit assignments on time. If there are technological limitations, please notify the teacher.

**Cyberbullying:** As defined by Dictionary.com, cyberbullying is “the act of harassing someone online by sending or posting mean messages.” Please keep in mind that Canvas is designed to work as an extension of the classroom; therefore, anything done on the site through the access of a school course group code will be treated the same as if it were said aloud in the classroom. Inappropriate comments or use of the site can result in disciplinary action.

### **Procedures and Expectations:**

**\*\*Students are expected to adhere to the VHS Student Code of Conduct at all times\*\***

### Classroom Behavior

- **Be Ready** - Arrive ready for class. Be an active participant in class and lab every day.
- **Be Responsible** – Bring needed supplies to class every day.
- **Be Respectful** - Treat everyone with respect. Be polite toward the teacher and your classmates.
- Food and drink are not permitted in the classroom (except water in closed containers in the classroom).
- Take pride in the class and lab by helping to keep it clean.
- No electronic devices may be visible/used in the classroom except for the Chromebook issued to students by the school system.

### Consequences

- Minor disruptions/infractions will receive warnings, parent phone calls, conferences, and/or a 30-minute teacher assigned detention. \*Note: The time of detention is nonnegotiable and will be held in room 1221 from 3:00-3:30pm. Failure to report to detention will result in Administrative Detention. Please see the VHS Student Handbook.
- An office referral will occur for major disruptions/infractions, failure to serve assigned detention, or after repeated detention assignments.

### Attendance

- Students should make every effort to be in class every day. **If absent, it is the student's responsibility to obtain missed assignments/notes from a classmate or teacher.** See the missing assignment folder in the classroom.
- If a test is missed, it is the student's responsibility to schedule a day to make-up the test within 5 school days. If a lab is missed, it will be the teacher's discretion to give an alternate assignment or make-up lab.
- If you are not in the classroom when the bell rings, you will be marked tardy.

### Chromebooks

- All students are issued a district-provided chrome book for instructional purposes, student engagement, and student learning. Chromebook use is at the direction and discretion of the classroom teacher.

**Return the last page that contains the lab safety contract and parent acknowledgement by Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup>.**

**PARENT/Student ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

**Physical Science**

**Mrs. Lane**

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have received, read, and understand the objectives, student expectations, classroom rules and procedures, grading policy, disciplinary consequences, materials required, and tutoring information provided in the syllabus for the Physical Science course. I will support Mrs. Lane's efforts to ensure my student is successful in this class. I acknowledge that my student must abide by the lab safety rules as outlined above and any others provided by Mrs. Lane. I have contact information to communicate with Mrs. Lane as needed.

**Parent/Guardian, please include your e-mail address and the single best phone number at which to contact you between 7:15-3:30.**

Student Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Guardian Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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PRINTED STUDENT NAME

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PERIOD

## LAB SAFETY CONTRACT

### General Lab Safety Rules:

- Follow all written & verbal instructions as provided.
- Wear proper eye/clothing protection at all times.
- Conduct yourself in a responsible & safe manner in the laboratory environment.
- Be knowledgeable of equipment, safety symbols, & techniques required for each lab.
- Know where/how to get help in an emergency, including the location of the first aid, safety shower, eye wash, fire extinguisher, and fire blanket.

Students must pass a lab safety quiz with an **80 or higher** to be permitted to participate in lab activities.

### Questions:

1. Do you wear contact lenses?      ☐ YES    ☐ NO
2. Are you color blind?                ☐ YES    ☐ NO
3. Do you have allergies?              ☐ YES    ☐ NO    If so, list specific allergies:
4. Is there any medical condition that I need to be aware of? If so, please list:

I have read, understand, and agree to follow the lab safety rules outlined above, located in the lab safety materials, and any others provided in the future. **I will always conduct myself safely & appropriately in the lab environment.** I understand that failure to do so may result in not receiving credit for the lab and/or an office referral.

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STUDENT SIGNATURE

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DATE

### Parent or Guardian:

We feel that you should be informed regarding the school's effort to create and maintain a safe science/laboratory environment. With the cooperation of the instructors, parents and students, a safety instruction program can eliminate, prevent, and correct possible hazards. You should be aware of the safety instructions your son/daughter will receive before engaging in any laboratory work. No student will be permitted to perform laboratory activities unless this contract is signed by both the student and the parent/guardian and is on file with the teacher. All students must also pass a lab safety quiz with an 80 or higher to be permitted to participate in lab activities.

Your signature on this form indicates that you have discussed the importance of lab safety in the laboratory with your son/daughter, are aware of the measures taken to ensure the safety of your son/daughter in the science laboratory and will instruct your son/daughter to uphold his/her agreement to follow the rules and procedures in the laboratory setting.

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PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

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DATE