



Course Syllabus

Physical Science- Fall 2025

Instructor: Ms. Reagan Newton

Course Description:

Surveys concepts taught in chemistry and physics require basic math skills, prepares the student for continued study in science and meets the physical science graduation requirement and is recommended for students going through Algebra 1A and 1B to help better prepare them for Chemistry.

Course Objectives:

Students will:

- Use the periodic table as a model to predict properties and trends of main group elements based on patterns of valence electrons.
- Identify the relationship that exists among pressure, volume, density, and temperature of a confined gas.
- Determine the role of electrons in chemical bonding and interpret chemical equations.
- Analyze data using acid-base indicators to distinguish between acids and bases, including comparisons between strong and weak acids and bases
- Develop models to illustrate the concept of half-life for radioactive decay.
- Analyze and interpret basic motion graphs including displacement, velocity, and acceleration.
- Discuss the motion of a system by applying Newton's Laws.
- Design models to demonstrate simple circuits.
- Discuss conservation of momentum using mathematical equations and diagrams.
- Discuss the conservation of energy and identify energy transformations.

Classroom Rules and Expectations:

General: Students are expected to come to class fully prepared to participate in and contribute to the scheduled activities and to adhere to the following:

1. **Be ready** for class each day. Students are expected to be seated in the classroom before the tardy bell rings and have all materials ready. *JCHS policy governs the consequences for tardiness.*
2. **Be respectful** of yourself, others, the teacher, and the classroom. If student behavior is interfering with learning, it will be addressed per JCHS policy.
3. **Be responsible** for your own attitude, actions, and assignments.

Classroom Management Plan:

- Verbal Reprimand
- Conference with student and parent contact
- Withdrawal of privileges and parent contact
- Other consequences deemed necessary by school administration



Concerning Laptop Utilization:

1. Student laptops should not be hard-wired to the network or have print capabilities.
2. Use of discs, flash drives, jump drives, or other USB devices will not be allowed on Madison City computers.
3. Neither the teacher, nor the school is responsible for broken, stolen, or lost laptops.
4. Laptops and other electronic devices will be used at the individual discretion of the teacher.
5. No headphones, wired or wireless, are permitted in the classroom.

Grading Policy:

Test grades will account for 70% of the 9-weeks grade, with the remaining 30% being determined by quiz/daily grades. The grading scale is as follows: A (90-100%), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (65-69), and F (below 65).

Grades will be a reflection of mastery of the standards. Make sure all absences are excused as class work can be made up and graded for excused absences only. The final exam counts for 20% of the final grade.

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools to complete assignments without prior disclosure and approval is strictly prohibited. Any undisclosed use of AI tools will be considered academic dishonesty and will result in an automatic grade of a zero for the assignment in question. All assignments are subject to review.

Missed Assignments:

If you are present in class but do not turn in an assignment by the due date, I will put a 0 in the gradebook. **Excused** absences will be granted 3 days to complete and turn in any missed assignments. After 3 days, the assignment will be counted as late unless extenuating circumstances are discussed with me. Assignments missed due to an **unexcused** absence will be given a 0 in accordance to Madison City Schools policy. Please make sure to turn in an excuse for every absence within 3 days.

Make-Up Work Policy:

If you are absent, make-up work will be on Schoology or in the make-up bin. **When you turn in an assignment, please email me so I can update your grade.** Make-up tests are only allowed for excused absences. Students with excused absences should make arrangements with me to take any missed assessments.

Course Materials:

Each student will need the following individual supplies:

1. 3-Ring Binder/Notebook
2. Paper
3. Pencils/Pens/Highlighter
4. Basic or Scientific Calculator (must have the square root function)
 - a. Cell phone calculators are not permitted.
5. School-issued Chromebook
 - a. Personal laptops will not be allowed.

James Clemens High School

11306 County Line Road
Madison, AL 35756



Phone: 256-216-5313

Email: rlnewton@madisoncity.k12.al.us

Texts/Required Readings:

Foundations of Physical Science, 3rd edition. Tom Hsu, CPO Science, 2013.

- Other required readings will be given in class or will be posted on Schoology.

Accommodations

Requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcomed from students and parents.

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18 - WEEK PLAN*	
WEEK 1	Lab Safety/Scientific Method/Measurement
WEEK 2	Scientific Method/Measurement/States of Matter
WEEK 3	States of Matter/Trends and Properties of the Periodic Table
WEEK 4	Trends and Properties of the Periodic Table
WEEK 5	Periodic Table and Chemical Bonding
WEEK 6	Chemical Bonding and Nomenclature
WEEK 7	Types of Chemical Reactions and Conservation of Mass
WEEK 8	Acids and Bases
WEEK 9	Radioactivity and Radioactive Decay
WEEK 10	Motion and Forces
WEEK 11	Forces and Newton's Laws
WEEK 12	Newton's Laws and Momentum
WEEK 13	Energy and Simple Machines/Work and Power
WEEK 14	Conservation of Energy
WEEK 15	Electricity and Currents
WEEK 16	Energy and Waves
WEEK 17	Energy and Waves/Electromagnetic Radiation
WEEK 18	Electromagnetic Radiation and Sonar

*** This syllabus serves as a guide for both the teacher and student; however, during the term it may become necessary to make additions, deletions or substitutions.**

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to another exciting school year! I am very excited to begin this class and I hope I can make this class fun for your student! Physical Science is laying the foundation for science classes to come so it is imperative students gather as much knowledge as possible this semester. Open lines of communication are welcomed within my classroom so if there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out! My contact information is listed below. As we begin this course, please review the syllabus with your student to be aware of all expectations this semester. **Please sign and date this page and upload it to Schoology by Friday, August 8, 2025.**

Looking forward to a great year!

Reagan Newton

rlnewton@madisoncity.k12.al.us

Parent/Guardian Contact Information:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Syllabus Affirmation:

Signing below indicates that you have read the syllabus and agree to all policies and procedures found therein. Please contact the instructor with any questions or concerns.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please check this box if your student needs financial assistance purchasing the required school supplies.

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Last thing: Is there any additional information about your student that might be helpful to know as I strive to serve them well as a teacher this semester? Feel free to share below or send me an email. (I really will read what you say and try to apply it as best I can.)
