**AP Physics 1**

**Topic Chapter**

Vectors, Kinematics 2 & 3

Forces and Motion 4

Work and Energy 5

Linear Momentum and Collisions 6

Circular Motion and Gravitation 7

**Assessment:**

Homework quiz/Edmodo 15%

Quizzes 20%

Labs 10%

Tests 40%

Fall Midterm 15%

The AP Physics I course is basically equivalent to the **first semester** of a corresponding college physics course. While there are some mathematical calculations involved throughout the course, there is a fundamental dependence upon conceptual understanding. Students will be expected to explain underlying concepts and ideas that cut across all the topics we discuss. The AP exam will require students to explain and discuss relationships that exist in physical situations that are presented, and students may struggle with the idea that this AP Physics course is no longer dependent upon the plug and chug use of formulas to generate answers. Homework sets, quizzes and test will all be designed to simulate the type of questions students should expect to see on the AP exam in May.

Homework quizzes are short, straight forward problems given on a completely random basis. They are designed to keep students honest about studying regularly. Edmodo is a web based blog site that I use for posting information and communicating with students. Part of their homework grade will be completion of quizzes on this Edmodo site. Quizzes are more traditional assessments that are announced and will be more cumulative in nature.

Labs will vary from short, in class investigations that require a day to more formal labs that may require a few days for students to gather and analyze data.

Tests are given to mirror the AP format, and are graded according to the College Board rubrics.

While this class covers the same amount of material that would normally be covered in a first semester college course, the depth of understanding and explanation required is much deeper, and students may be challenged initially to communicate their understanding at the correct level or with the correct amount of detail.