

CLASSROOM RULES & POLICIES

Mr. Paulson's classes

I. ATTENDANCE POLICIES

1. Show up on time! When the bell rings, I take roll and grade homework. Please be in your seat, with your homework out, ready to be graded. We need to be ready to go when it's time to begin.
2. If you are absent for any reason, you missed something! We learn something new almost every day, and if you miss, you will never fully catch up! You must get the work from a classmate or from me during spare time. You have 5 days to make up the work missed. If you were absent the day of a lab or a test, please be ready to take it the next class day. It makes it easier and more fair for all involved. Make up tests will be different.

II. RULES/POLICIES

1. Everyday we work! so please bring a pencil, pen, and calculator to class. If you are not prepared, you can't get things done, and you slow down the rest of the class.
2. I love group work! All assignments & labs should be done with a friend or two, but don't turn in verbatim copies! Tests and quizzes must be your own work, or I can't see how we are doing in our own jobs. Any cheating, or even the appearance of cheating will result in a zero - no make-up, no second chances. Don't let your work get copied - it doesn't help you or your friends!
3. I will treat you like an adult as long as you can handle the responsibilities that go with that. Going to the restroom, eating, that sort of thing are to be done respectfully, with an emphasis on cleanliness! I'm not here to clean up after you.
4. Notebook tabs: you are an adult, and are therefore responsible for your own mess - keep it organized for your own sake - review your notes every day!
5. All lab safety equipment is to be left alone unless an emergency exists. If you break something, don't be a 2-year old - tell me and you'll fix it if possible; if not, it's only your college tuition money - at least you still have your integrity!
10. Normal consequences: see student code of conduct. It shouldn't come up.

III. MY PART

1. You give me full effort, full respect, full attitude, guess what you get back? A real education!
2. I usually have things graded within two class days. (I was a student once too.)
3. Grading is updated after each exam is graded. All students will receive a progress report after each test, assuming the system is functional...
4. I am available before school for extra help (I get here about 8, so can you!) and am here until at least 4:30. I will make special arrangements with anyone who needs them.
5. I try hard, but am not perfect (gasp!) and will remember the same about you. Cooperation and mutual respect go a long way. Integrity is very high on my list. I am your biggest cheerleader and WANT you to dominate. Never lie to me or give me a reason to not trust you. Don't flip a good relationship.

IV. GRADES

1. I try really hard to make learning as real and as fun as possible. Assignments are formative grades: try them, work hard and get as much done as you can honestly do before the next class. You may not be able to answer all of them correctly, but you should get most of them. All assignments are graded on how many you try, not how many you get correct; correcting mistakes is your responsibility - you won't regret it!
(I understand that your life is a delicate balance of time, but please understand that assignments are designed to prepare you for the exam. Do them daily and life is easy - doing them after you take an exam is kind of counter-productive... with that in mind, I'll take a late assignment (not a lab!) up until the exam, but not after. Anything turned in after an exam is worth 50%, which, while better than a zero, hurts both your grade and more importantly, your learning.)
2. Labs are sometimes formative, usually summative grades. Some labs will therefore be graded as done/not done, but most will be strictly graded, with an emphasis on accuracy and on the end questions. Don't just fill in anything - think! Every question is designed to show you something!

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3. Tests are always summative and count as a major portion of your grade. There are always more than one copy out during a test, and even the slightest glance at a neighbors paper, ANY TALKING, or any other appearance of cheating will result in a zero that cannot be made up for any reason. This also applies to final exams. Exams other than midterms and finals will be handed back to look over, but will not be kept by you. You won't see your midterm and final, just your grade.

4. If you receive less than a 70% on any test, it can be retaken for a maximum 70% grade. This retake must be done within 5 days of when you get the first grade, and the time/place must be set up ahead of time. The retake will be somewhat more difficult. (fill in the blank versus matching, etc.) Don't repeat mistakes! I will not give a retest unless you come in before or after school for a review of what you did wrong the first time.

5. Overall grades will be determined by school policy: 25% homework/labs, 25% quarter exam and 50% tests. My computer figures the grades, I write them down, YOU earn them, therefore I don't GIVE grades and will not alter your grade (i.e. a 69.4% is a failing grade). If homework is actually done by you, this is never an issue. :)

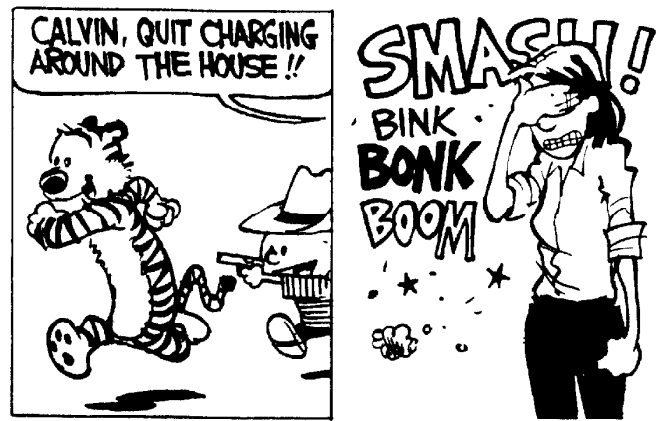
V. EQUIPMENT

1. All students must own a scientific calculator for the entire year. This means if you lose yours, you get another. This means you don't co-own a calculator with someone else. If you honestly cannot afford a calculator, ask me and we will work something out. Your calculator must be able to do the following: Trigonometry functions (sine, cosine, tangent), exponential notation (EE or EXP key), and inverses (1/x or x-1 button). I will have TI - 83 or 84 calculators available in class, but when you are home, you can't use them! If you get the same type as we use, it won't freak you out and you can leave yours at home and not lose/break it. You can have a cheap TI -30x at home and it will work fine. Bring in a flash drive and I'll give you a calculator emulator for use at home.

2. You need pencils, pens and paper. (No kidding?) I won't tolerate irresponsible people borrowing from responsible people. Recycled scratch paper is available for emergencies.

3. All other equipment will be provided - take care of the schools equipment like it was your mother's favorite stuff. Often there is equipment set up that is finely tuned and/or dangerous. Unless you have explicit permission to do so... **DON'T TOUCH!** I often take hours to fine tune these seemingly simple setups - don't mess with them - curiosity is wonderful, but be sensible - I will answer all questions in the best order I can, so I'm not shutting off the fun, just keeping order! Again: if anything breaks - let me know right away so we can fix it.

Learn from his mistakes!



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Please keep these rules handy so you can refer to them when you have questions.