



Brookline High School

Science Department

115 Greenough Street

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Dear Guardians and Parents of 8th Graders,

The science courses offered at Brookline High School for 9th grade students are *Physics I* and *Physics I Honor*. After successfully completing one of these courses, students can then take Chemistry followed by Biology. Following the completion of these three core subjects, students can choose from the 16 optional science courses that Brookline High offers.

Physics I is a rigorous course designed for students who want a solid foundation in introductory physics. The course is designed for students with a keen interest in science who are very self-motivated, often find themselves asking “why,” and enjoy discussing real-world applications of physics. Topics include vibrations/waves, heat, electricity/magnetism, and mechanics. In addition to learning physics content, there is an emphasis on mastering the scientific skills that will provide a strong foundation for science courses in future grades. Frequent hands-on activities and projects allow students to reinforce and apply what they have learned. Students who complete the required work on a topic will have opportunities to go in more depth with optional extensions. *Physics I* is best suited for students enrolled in *Geometry* or *Geometry Honor*. After successfully building skills in *Physics I*, students may elect to enroll in an honor level chemistry course in the tenth grade. Students who have been successful in *Physics I* are well prepared to take *AP Physics* in their senior year, and may become science majors in college.

Physics I Honor covers the same content as *Physics I* but in greater depth and with more mathematical applications. Students in this course should be comfortable grappling with rigorous concepts independently, and should be excited to work through problems for which they don’t immediately see the solution. This course emphasizes understanding concepts, and there is a strong math component that uses both algebra and trigonometry to solve multi-step problems. *Physics I Honor* is best suited for students in *Geometry Advanced* and those in *Geometry Honor* with a strong interest in science.

Sincerely,

Ed Wisner

Curriculum Coordinator for Science 9-12

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<i>BHS Science Course List and Sequence</i>		
<i>9th Grade</i>	<i>10th Grade</i>	<i>11th Grade</i>
Physics 1 Physics 1 Honor	Chemistry 1 Chemistry 1 LBC Honor Chemistry 1 Honor	Biology 1 Biology 1 BSCS (Standard or Honor) Biology 1 Honor
<i>Optional Courses</i>		
Astronomy (S/H) Anatomy & Physiology (S/H) AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Environmental Science	AP Physics – 1&2 AP Physics – C Biology 2 Honor Body/Mind Honor Engineering By Design	Engineering Innovation and Design Environmental Science and Society (S/H) Forensic Science (S/H) Genetics (S/H) Marine Biology (S/H)