

For the students who successfully complete this course, “AP Physics 1” will appear on their high school transcript alongside the final grade. This grade should be an accurate representation of how-well the student performed within the curriculum as defined by The College Board.

We cannot do this based-upon the scores of the exams taken in May because those are not released until July, well-beyond the end of the school year. Instead, students will take a number of equivalent, practice AP exams and their final grades will be heavily determined by how well they score on these exams. The goal is to achieve, as nearly as possible:

Students who average a practice score of:	End with a year’s grade of:
5	95%
4	90%
3	83%
2	75%
1	65%

There will likely be some unavoidable deviations. A conscientious student may carefully complete all labs and homework, get twos on all of the practice tests and end with an 83%. A less-disciplined student may neglect many assignments, get fours all of the practice tests, and also end with an 83%.

Incidentally, as the schedule stands now:

- one fifty-five practice exam will be given in-class before the midterm exam
- one ninety-minute practice exam will constitute the midterm exam
- at least two, full 180 minute practice exams will be given in April
- one practice exam (120 or 180 minutes) will be given in May and serve as the final exam grade for the class

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This being the case, students will naturally be concerned with how they can best prepare for these practice exams. Below are several recommendations:

1. Carefully read general advice on how to take these sorts of tests. I’ve compiled some [here](#). You’ll also find good advice in AP Physics 1 test prep books (although the practice questions are rarely very good) or through a basic Google search.
2. Become familiar with the equation sheets. You’ll have [these](#) available for all practice exams.
3. Consider making and reviewing flashcards from [this list](#).
4. When practicing Webassign questions:
  - read the whole question carefully
  - ask yourself what principles are most likely to apply to this situation (the flashcards can help with this). Talk yourself through the reasoning that takes you to the answer.

- try to answer the question without looking at the multiple choice options. Then, when you do look at the options and your predicted answer is present, it's a good sign.
- answer the question
- if stuck, try crossing-out unreasonable options or inventing simple numbers and solving the question numerically

At first, this will seem like a needlessly slow and laborious process. But it will become helpful later-on when you encounter questions on the practice exams which are not similar to what you've seen in class.