

Georgia Gwinnett College – Physics & Physical Science Lab Safety Rules

Physics and Physical Science are laboratory driven subjects. You will conduct a variety of activities to support your learning this semester. Please make sure you ask any time you have a question about a piece of equipment or procedure in this lab. We want everyone to have a safe and enjoyable experience in lab.

1. Be prepared for each laboratory activity. Follow all written and verbal instructions carefully. Be particularly mindful of the safety and procedural aspects of each experiment.
2. Conduct yourself in a responsible manner at all times in the laboratory. If you take it out, put it back; if you spill it, clean it up; if you don't know – ask! Use common sense when working with fragile equipment.
3. Observe good housekeeping practices. Keep your work area clean and neat at all times. Materials not required for lab (books, purses, backpacks, etc.) should be placed in the location specified by your instructor.
4. Be mindful of spinning or spring-loaded lab equipment. Be sure to take proper safety precautions, including safety glasses, when equipment is in use.
5. Never leave lasers, power supplies or other electrical equipment unattended. Always turn these items off when not in use.
6. Ensure that all electrical equipment is turned off and unplugged before adjusting any wiring.
7. When working with lasers, be mindful of where the beam is directed as well as materials that may reflect the beam. Do not shine lasers into eyes.
8. Do not eat food, drink beverages, or chew gum in the laboratory area. No exceptions.
9. Know the locations of the exits (of the room and the building). Know the location of the fire alarms & extinguishers. If a fire occurs your job is to leave the lab with your lab partner, pulling the alarm on the way out. Exit the building.
10. Dress properly for lab. Depending on the particular activity, the instructor may require long hair to be tied back, dangling jewelry and loose or baggy clothing to be removed or secured, shoes that cover the foot, and safety goggles to be worn.
11. Report any accident or injury to the instructor immediately, no matter how trivial it may appear.
12. Students are not permitted in the science storage rooms or preparation areas.

Agreement: I, (print name) _____ have read and agree to follow all of the safety rules set forth in this contract. I realize that I must obey these rules to ensure my own safety, and that of my fellow students and instructors. I will cooperate to the fullest extent with my instructor and fellow students to maintain a safe lab environment. I will also closely follow the oral and written instructions provided by the instructor. I also am fully aware that if I violate the agreement, I may be removed from the laboratory for my own safety, and that of my classmates.

Signature _____

Date _____