

ADVANCED ALGEBRA COURSE SYLLABUS 2015-2016

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

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CONTENT

This is an Advanced Algebra course focusing on applying functions, equations and graphing. This course requires that students regularly complete independent practice in order to be successful. Students should expect **daily assignments** that average 30 minutes of independent practice work. A large number of collaborative activities will be used in class. Students are expected to actively participate in these activities.

MATERIALS

- TI-83plus graphing calculators will be provided to students to use in class. These calculators will be stored in class. If students wish to use a calculator at home that has the capabilities of the ones used in class, without spending the money (they are pretty expensive), I recommend Desmos. You can either download the app to a smart phone, or use online by going to www.desmos.com. Otherwise you are more than welcome to use any other emulator or graphing software you like. As new technology comes out I will keep you updated in my recommendations. If you are looking to purchase a calculator for at home use (it will be good for both High School and College) shoot me an email, so I can tell you what to look for.

- A notebook is required for this class. You may choose how you organize your material (binder with paper or a spiral notebook or a folder) but you need to have something that you will have with you everyday so that you can be an organized student.

- Students must have a pencil every day. Assignments in pen will not be accepted.

GRADING POLICY

Classwork/Homework/Quizzes (Formative)	20%
Tests (Summative)	80%
Total	100%

1. Independent Practice/Classwork/Quizzes: Independent Practice will be assigned on a daily basis with few exceptions. Assignments will be due the following school day unless specified otherwise. Late assignments will be accepted until the day of the chapter test. Occasional quizzes will also be given to check for student understanding.

2. Tests: Tests will be given after each chapter. Cumulative tests will also be given throughout the year. These tests will be another opportunity to replace previous lower test scores.

GRADING RUBRIC

A	90-100%
B+	85-89%
B	80-84%
C+	75-79%
C	70-74%
D+	65-69%
D	60-64%
F	0-59%

CLASSROOM RULES

1. Be present. Students must be in their assigned seats when the tardy bell rings. Consequences for multiple tardies can be found in the student handbook. Attendance in a math class is extremely important; multiple absences can cause a student to fall behind, and playing “catch-up” in this class will be very difficult. If a student is absent on a test day, it is their responsibility to schedule a make-up time—usually within 2-3 days of the test. **NOTE:** being absent on a review day does not excuse a student from taking a test. **It is the student’s responsibility to get any homework or notes from days they are absent.** This can be found on my website or on the assignment sheet given to them at the beginning of each chapter.

2. Be prepared. Each day, students will be required to bring their 3-ring binder or notebook and loose-leaf paper, a pencil, and completed independent practice.

3. Treat others with respect. Each student must respect another student’s right to learn and the teacher’s right to teach. Be polite to each other and treat the property of the school and other students with respect. Always use appropriate language in the school and the classroom.

PASSES

By school policy, students must remain in the classroom for the first and last ten minutes of each period. If a student needs to leave the room, they can do so asking me independently for a pass in their planner.

ADDITIONAL HELP

If a student wishes to come in for extra help, I will be available before and after school. Students simply need to let us know when they would like to come in. I typically arrive at school between 7:15 and 7:30 AM and stays after school until at least 3:45 PM. I strongly suggest that students who are struggling or have questions come in during these times for extra help. It may take as little as 5 or 10 minutes to resolve an issue that could later take hours to relearn. If we are unavailable, the other math instructors in the department are willing to help. If a student would like to come in for longer periods of time, talk with me to set up a day.

ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER (ARC)

If a student falls behind on class because of absences or difficult material and is unable to come in for help with me, he/she may be assigned to the academic resource center (ARC). This is a mandatory after-school study to help students catch up in the class. This will most commonly happen if the student is missing a test or multiple homework assignments. If a student is assigned to ARC, parents will be notified.

MATH INTERVENTION

If a student is failing/near-failing and needs additional help beyond ARC and one-on-one teacher help, he/she may be eligible to work with the LHS math interventionist, Mrs. Norman. Once a teacher refers a student for intervention, Mrs. Norman will then work with the student’s teachers to find additional time during the school week to provide one-on-one help to the student. A student is only referred if he/she is putting forth significant effort yet still struggling.

**If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call or e-mail me.
Let’s have an amazing and productive semester!**