

Algebra I Course Syllabus 2007-2008

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Room #: N131

Meeting Times: 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th period
Conference: 2nd Period
Tutorial Times: Tuesday and Wednesday

Resources and Materials:

- Textbook: McDougal Littell Algebra 1: Explorations and Applications (**BRING TO CLASS EVERY DAY!**)
- TI-84+ Graphing Calculator (*OPTIONAL, BRING EVERY DAY, IF POSSIBLE*)
- **Organized** binder (MATH only) with COLLEGE-RULED paper and dividers (lesson and assignment schedules, lesson notes and handouts, homework, quizzes)
- PENCILS (***all work is to be done in pencil***), as well as a pen (*for corrections on homework*)
- Straightedge (Student ID should suffice, but driver's license, credit card, etc. is okay)

Course Description/Objectives:

- Overview: Algebra I has an emphasis on the study of functions and their relationships
- Content: Functions, Patterns, Slope, Linear Equations, Systems of Equations, Non-linear Equations
- Instructional methods: lecture, discovery and group work (*review the previous day's notes everyday*)
- Goals: critical reading, analytical thinking, creative synthesis and problem-solving, and attention to detail regarding all Algebra I topics
- Objective: preparation for higher level math classes and science classes in high school
- Major work: Homework, Classwork, Quizzes, Exams, Projects

Course Calendar/Schedule:

- Assignments: Homework, Projects
- Due dates:
 - Homework is due the class following the lesson (I recommend that you work ½ of the homework on the day the lesson is introduced – this way, you will know if you need additional help before the next class meeting, and you will become a stronger student with this discipline)
 - If you know you are going to be out of my class, you must turn in your work early.
- Quizzes will usually be unannounced – be prepared at any time for an evaluation of your progress; expect 2 to 3 quizzes per week over any topic we have covered all year
- Exams will be given every two to three weeks on the current unit and past units → **DO NOT MISS AN EXAM!!! MAKE-UPS WILL NOT BE A PLEASANT EXPERIENCE!!!**

Course Policies:

- Attendance:
 - If absent, you must give me a copy of your excuse the day you return to school; no note will result in a "P" in conduct, and zeros will be given for missed work, including homework, tests and quizzes.
 - If absent, you will need to get together with another student for the lecture notes and then come in for help from other students 1st, then from me if the cooperative assistance did not help you
 - Be proactive regarding your education: if you are absent from class, I expect you to see me on your 1st day you are back on campus to get any additional handouts, information, etc.
- Tardies: these will affect your performance in this course; please make every effort to be on time to class, East 1 detention will result for every unexcused tardy, 2 unexcused tardies will result in an S in conduct
- Class Participation: you will present work on the board and work cooperatively with your peers – a minimum of 2 board points per six weeks.

- Guidelines for turning in assignments
 - All assignments should have your name, number, date, and description of the assignment at the top of the page
 - Student work should demonstrate understanding of the problem assigned. Each problem should demonstrate understanding of the concepts being learned and good usage of mathematical symbols.
 - It should NEVER just be a single number without some description of how you got that number.
- Make-ups:
 - “Make-ups” on homework assignments is not an idea which should be entertained, if you are absent on the day you return to class you should have the homework for the missed day and the day you come in
 - There will be no make-ups on quizzes. If an absence is excused, the quiz is excused. An unexcused absence will result in a quiz grade of zero, which will negatively affect your average – you **must** make attending class a priority.
 - Make-ups for exams will occur at the end of the Three Week and Six Week grading periods and will be significantly more difficult than the original exam. **Make-up exams will be taken at 6 a.m.** If an absence on the original test day is unexcused, the exam grade will be a zero.
- Tutorials:
 - All students are encouraged to find a tutorial time that best fits their schedule. The Algebra I teachers complied numerous times to make it convenient. Make an appointment if needed.
 - Students must come to morning tutorials at least once a week if they have a D or F at the three or six week marking period.
 - Once a week, students can earn one merit for coming to morning tutorials.
- Expected Behavior:
 - Respect for instructor, peers and yourself
 - Honesty, integrity, exemplary character
 - Follow dress code, no short shorts, skirts, or shirts, no head coverings worn (they will be taken up), no rude prints
 - Participation in classroom activities
 - Completion of all homework assignments
 - Students will show all supporting work on all assignments unless told otherwise. No Work = No Credit (NWNK).
 - Students are expected to read the lesson in the textbook the first day it is introduced in class
 - Use of PENCIL for homework, quizzes and tests (a 1 point deduction will be made for using pen)
 - Write your class number and name on everything turned in (a 1 point deduction will be made for papers with no name)
 - Present and on time to class with all necessary supplies
 - Participation in independent study groups (taking responsibility for your education is the first step to academic success and excellence)
 - Attendance at tutorials before/after school, during lunch when you need help
 - Leaving Mr. Fuentes’ stuff in the same or better condition in which you found it
 - **Cut back your work hours**
 - If you want to contribute to the class, I can always use red pens, AAA batteries, math puzzles, personal art, pictures, posters, furniture, etc.
 - Handle your concerns with maturity and responsibility → please communicate with me prior to allowing a problem (academic or personal) get out of hand, this includes correspondence with your parents – *I expect to know from you first if there is a problem or area of concern*
 - Unless otherwise stated, all answers should be rounded to 3 decimal places.

- Unacceptable Behavior:
 - Profanity (verbal, physical, symbolic or written)
 - Cheating in any form (including copying homework); **if you have someone else’s paper in your possession, you are cheating**
 - If you look at another student’s paper during a test or quiz, you will have to retake test/quiz or receive a zero
 - Disrespect
 - Sleeping
 - Not taking care of this space (trash, writing/gum on desks, unfolded blankets/sweaters, etc.)
 - Incomplete or non-existent homework assignments
 - **Late Work Policy:** Late work may be turned in within 5 school days. Each day it is not turned in you lose a point. After that it is a zero.
 - Absence from class, especially if there is a recurrence on test days
 - Removing anything from the classroom which is not yours
 - Asking if there is any extra credit work you can do to “bring up your grade”
 - Using a pen on coursework, except when specifically stated to use one
 - No phone, pda’s, cd players, etc. out in class, if I see them I will take them up
 - If students lose a handout, replacements are 25 cents.
- Grades:
 - Overall Six Weeks Average determined by (Total Points):

▪ Homework	5 pts
▪ Classwork/Participation	15 pts
▪ Quizzes	20 pts
▪ Exams/Projects	60 pts
 - Bonus Opportunities:
 - 100% attendance and participation on Exam days – 2 pts. earned
 - Additional points may be earned on each Exam, bonus problems
 - 1 point on your Six Weeks average for no tardies during the Six Weeks
 - 1 point on your Six Weeks average for no absences during the Six Weeks
 - 1 point on your Six Weeks average for every math competition participated in during the Six Weeks
 - 1 point on next test if I see you at an extracurricular school function

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We have read and understand the Algebra I Course Syllabus.

Student Name (printed) _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Parent email _____

Parent Phone # _____