**HIGHER ALGEBRA**

Course Outline

Semester I & lI

Mrs. Andres

**WELCOME STUDENTS AND PARENTS!**

**Class Motto:** Compete only against yourself and do your best work with a positive attitude. Encourage your classmates and help each other whenever possible and appropriate.

**Course Description:** This course is designed to build a mathematical foundation of various algebraic concepts from topics that will be studied in Semester 1/2 include chapters 1-13: first degree equations and inequalities, equations of lines (including slope and line of best fit), systems of equations, quadratic functions, real and complex number systems, polynomial functions, properties of rational exponents and radical functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, rational expressions/equations, arithmetic and geometric sequences and series, trigonometric ratios/functions, distance and midpoint formulas, equations of a circle, permutations, combinations, and probability. Also, important life skills will be stressed and discussed.

**Minnesota Academic Standards.**

For more information on Minnesota’s Academic Standards, see<http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/Academic_Excellence/Academic_Standards/index.html>

**Course Objectives**

The students will:

1. Develop an understanding and appreciation of the mathematical world in which we live in through real-life applications.

2. Apply various problem-solving techniques to solve mathematical problems.

3. Develop an understanding of the mathematical language.

4. Demonstrate various mathematical and life skills such as reasoning, communication, and problem solving.

5. Use technology responsibly and effectively.

**Course Requirements:**

1) Each student must have a three-ring binder and a notebook, which is **ONLY** for math. Each student will keep all assignments in this folder.

2) Bring all materials to class daily, including Chromebook.

3) Uphold the integrity of other people and objects.

4) Come to class on time, prepared, and stay on task. Also stay in your seat until the bell rings. Let’s not be cattle and herd at the doorway!!

5) No bullying, teasing, or offensive language.

**Grading Procedure:** Students will be assessed according to the following criteria:

 Homework = 25%

 Quizzes = 25%

 Tests = 50%

**Grading Scale:**

 A 100 – 93 A- 93 - 90

B+ 89 - 87 B 86 - 83 B- 82 - 80

C+ 79 - 77 C 76 - 73 C- 72 - 70

D+ 69 - 67 D 66 - 63 D- 62 - 60

F 59 & Lower

**Homework Assignments:**

Daily assignments will count for at least 10 points. To receive full credit, assignments must be turned in on time and you must show your work (**a list of answers is not acceptable**). It is your responsibility to check your answers on daily assignments. Daily assignments are time for practice so I will generally not grade them for correctness. This is your chance to make sure you understand the material. Watch the schedule for upcoming quizzes and tests. Academic dishonesty (cheating) will result in a zero for any and all assignments, tests, etc. Assignments may be turned in via email or notebook paper.

**Chromebook Expectations:**

1. During lecture students will only have applications open which correspond to class work (for example: book website and notes). Anyone found not on the appropriate applications will loose all privileges.
2. Students should check the class website and Synergy daily!
3. Students will use only **THEIR** Chromebook.

**Absenses/Tardies**:

Any absence results in the loss of valuable instruction (and maybe I told a really funny joke that day!). If you are absent for any reason, it is your responsibility to determine what you have missed (and learn it and do the work). Unexcused absences are unacceptable. They may result in the loss of points, parent contact, and/or discipline referral. BE ON TIME! Showing up late is rude and disruptive. If tardiness continues to be a problem it could also result in the loss of points, parent contact, and/or disciplinary referral.

**Synergy**:

Grades will be regularly updated. Check Synergy often to verify assignments, grades, and attendance. Sometimes I make mistakes! (Crazy, right?)

**Need Help/ Confused?/ Don’t Get It?**

I am here to help! In order to succeed in math you need understand each step along the way. Please see me if you are struggling! I’m here early every morning!

**If you work hard, have patience, and be persistent, you will be successful at learning math!**

**FAQ**

**“I was gone because I was sick / had a school activity / etc...”**

Check the schedule to see what we did / get the assignment. (If it was a test or quiz, see below.)

Get notes from someone else in the class. Read the section in the book. THEN try the assignment.

After you have done everything from above, please meet with me about any questions you have!

**“I missed the quiz / test.”**

Missed quizzes / tests ideally should be made up within 24 hours.

Come see me before school so we can schedule a time for you to make it up. If you don’t come before  school and don’t have any opens, you will have to take the missed test during the class period and make up what we’re learning that day (see above).

* **“Do you correct the homework?”**
* I don’t generally “correct” assignments. Assignments are your place to practice.
* It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to make sure you understand the material. You can feel confident that you understand if you are checking your answers as you complete assignments. Check answers using the odds in the back of the book, the answer book is available during class, and most days I will post answers. If you’re not getting the right answers and don’t understand why, ASK QUESTIONS!
* When you turn in an assignment you are telling me that you have completed it, checked your answers, and understand the material.

**“How much are assignments worth?”**

Assignments are worth a maximum of 10 points. Late assignments (turned in AFTER the test day) are worth a maximum of 7 points. For more info, refer to the **Homework Assignments** category above.

**“What assignments am I missing? What’s my grade?”**

Check Synergy! I update very frequently.

**“I wish I had a better grade.”**

Do you come to class and actively participate?

Do you complete all assignments?

Do you check your answers?

Do you ask questions about what you don’t understand?

Do you study for quizzes/tests?

Do you take advantage of extra credit opportunities?

**LETS HAVE A GREAT YEAR!**