

# Algebra I Prep Course Syllabus 2009-2010

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Room #: N222

Meeting Times: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> period  
Conference Time: 5<sup>th</sup> period  
Tutorial Times: During "A" Lunch

## Resources and Materials:

- Textbook: McDougal Littell Algebra 1: Explorations and Applications
- TI-83/84 Graphing Calculator will be required at a certain point in the year. Calculators are **NOT** provided by the school.
- **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.** Colored pens are for corrections/grading only.
- Straightedge: The 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 and science classes in high school
- **Major work:** Homework, class work, quizzes, exams, projects
- Stanford (January), TAKS (April), and LTF (April) exams will be counted as test grades.

## Course Policies:

- Attendance/Tardies: Refer to the **Westside Way** for the latest school wide information.
- Class Participation: You will be continuously engaged in learning (not socializing with neighbors). You will also present work at the board and work cooperatively with your peers.
- Point Deductions: Points will be deducted from a weekly participation grade if materials are not brought to every class and if behavior does not foster cooperative learning.
- Guidelines for turning in assignments
  - All assignments should have your name, date, and title/description of the assignment (including page numbers) at the top of each page.
  - All homework is due in class the following day. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
  - Quizzes will usually be unannounced - be prepared at any time for an evaluation of your progress.
  - Exams will be given every two to three weeks on the current unit, including past units. **DO NOT MISS AN EXAM!!! MAKE-UPS WILL NOT BE A PLEASANT EXPERIENCE!!!**
  - Students should always show **ALL** work (for full credit). The work should demonstrate understanding of the problem assigned. Each problem should demonstrate understanding of the concepts being learned and good usage of mathematical symbols.
  - Unless otherwise stated, all answers should be rounded to 2 decimal places.

- Make-ups:
  - “Make-ups” on homework assignments is not an idea which should be entertained. When absent, missed work is due on the day of your return.
  - Make-ups for assignments should be arranged directly with the teacher following the guidelines published in the *Westside Way*.
- Tutorials:
  - All students are encouraged to find a tutorial time that best fits their schedule. The Algebra I teachers compiled numerous times to make it convenient. Make an appointment if needed.
  - Students must come to mandatory tutorials if they have a D or F.
  - Your tutoring teacher should sign and date your notebook to document your attendance at the tutorial session.
- 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 (NWNC)
  - Students are expected to read the lesson in the textbook the first day it is introduced in class.
  - Use a **PENCIL** for all work. Deductions will be made for using a pen.
  - Write your name and period on everything that you turn in. Deductions will be made for papers with no name.
  - Present and on time to class with all required materials. Deductions will be taken if you do not have your materials ready when the bell rings.
  - Participation in independent study groups, including the online forums. 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.
  - Leave your instructor’s classroom clean and return all materials to the instructor.
  - Handle your concerns with maturity and responsibility. Please communicate with me prior to allowing a problem (academic or personal) to get out of hand, this includes communications with your parents – *I expect to know from you first if there is a problem or area of concern.*
  - The bell does **NOT** dismiss you from your class; your instructor does.

- 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 receive a zero. You may retake the test or quiz at your instructor's discretion.
  - Disrespect
  - Sleeping
  - Not taking care of this space (trash, writing/gum on desks, unfolded blankets/sweaters, etc.)
  - Incomplete or non-existent homework assignments.
  - Absence from class, especially if there is a recurring pattern 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 for corrections and grading with colored pen
  - No phone, pda's, cd players, etc. out in class; if I see them I will take them up.
- Grades: Overall Six Weeks Average determined by as follows:
 

▪ Major Tests, Projects	70%
▪ Quizzes	20%
▪ Homework, Daily	10%

Return the following acknowledgement to your Algebra 1 instructor by the next class period.

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We have read and understand the Algebra I Course Syllabus.

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Student Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Phone#** \_\_\_\_\_