

## Pre-Calculus Syllabus

Dear Students:

Welcome to pre-calculus! Over the next semesters you will be expanding your knowledge of polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. You will also be introduced to some basic *linear algebra* topics, polar graphs and equations, and parametric graphs and equations. If time allows we will also get a sneak peek at the most fundamental concept in calculus: limits. However, before we get started we must first set some ground rules, and expectations, in order for us to have a productive and comfortable working environment. Please feel free to contact me any time. I will be happy to answer any questions or concerns.

Taking daily notes in class is mandatory so that they can be used as reference when doing homework or studying for quizzes/tests. Homework will be assigned daily. Practice is a must! Set aside at least one hour each day for studying your notes AND completing the daily assignment. **REVIEW AND LEARN YOUR CLASSNOTES BEFORE YOU ATTEMPT THE ASSIGNMENT.** As you are aware, students who miss class and/or do not complete their nightly assignments fall behind very quickly. I highly recommend forming weekly peer study groups. There are many advantages of working with a peer group on a regular basis. Students will learn to take responsibility for their own learning, improve their skills in using mathematical language as they work with others, become less fearful of making errors, become more confident in their own abilities by successful group participation, learn how to work in a group, enjoy learning, and develop a positive attitude toward mathematics. Ultimately, an increase in the students' level of comprehension of the subject matter is achieved.

I look forward to an exciting and successful year. With that said, this letter will cover what to expect in my class and how to prepare, behave, and manage yourself.

### ***Required Materials – Bring DAILY***

- Two pencils (#2 or mechanical with lead, and erasers)
- Math Journal (a spiral or bound notebook to be used for the daily opener, homework, and notes)
- Calculators (will be discussed in class)

### ***Optional Materials***

- Colored pens
- Highlighters
- Ruler
- Graph paper and loose-leaf lined paper
- 3-ring binder / folder

### ***Assessment and Grading***

Grading will break down as follows:

90% - 100%	= A
80% - 89%	= B
70% - 79%	= C
60% - 69%	= D
Below 60%	= F

Grades are recorded on a weekly basis.

- **Tests**
  - Given for each unit. At times there may be 2 tests within one chapter. Tardy students will not get extended time. There are **no** dropped tests. Each semester will have a midterm and a final exam. The final exam for semester 2 is cumulative for the entire year
- **Quizzes, Projects**
  - May be given as often as once a week and will not always be announced. Problems resemble the homework and warm-ups. There will be a few projects throughout the year and will be mostly completed in groups
- **Homework**
  - To be completed in Math Journal and not torn out. Neatly organized with **ALL WORK** shown in pencil (Credit will **not** be given if student has just written the answers with no work). Assignment and title written on the first line. Homework is due the day after assigned, unless directed otherwise. I do not accept late homework.
- **Classwork/ Participation**
  - Classwork should follow the exact same criteria as homework. This will include in class warm-ups, worksheets, coming to class on-time and participation during class discussions and lessons.

*Late work will **not** be accepted without a valid reason!* (See absent policy below)

### ***Attendance and Tardy Policy***

Please take the time to review the attendance policy, as written in the student handbook, with your child. A student is considered tardy if they are not *in their seat working when the bell rings*. I have a bell in the classroom in case the school bells stop working. Continuous tardies will result in a decrease of the student's participation grade, as well as further disciplinary actions.

### ***Make Up Policy - Absences***

All tests, quizzes, and homework assignments are to be made up upon return to class, and will only be accepted if absences are **excused**. They will be due according to the length of absence (i.e. 1 day – 1 day to complete, 2 days – 2 days to complete). ***It is the student's responsibility to collect missed assignments and reschedule missed tests.*** If they do not reschedule a time to do so (however many days absent is the deadline to reschedule), it will be an automatic zero. Make-up tests must be scheduled in advance.

### **Classroom Expectations**

#### **Be Respectful**

- To each other: by not talking when teacher, guest speaker, or others are talking
- To the school: by treating school materials properly and upholding **all** school rules (i.e. NO CELL PHONES OR IPODS, ETC.)

#### **Be Responsible:**

- Come to class on time and prepared with *all* necessary materials
- Turn in *all* work complete and on time
- Follow the given directions and stay on task
- Do your own work and be a good team member

### **Failure to be respectful will result in:**

- A warning
- Detention (sweeping)
- Phone call home
- Referral to Assistant Principal

\* Please note that everyone must take the final exam, even if you have an "A" in the course.

**How to Succeed in this Class:**

1. Be seated and ready to go.
2. Take notes.
3. Ask questions.
4. Do your homework.
5. Come in for additional help, i.e. tutoring.
6. Take part in class discussions.
7. Study!!!
8. BE RESPECTFUL!!!

If acquiring any of the materials is a problem, please contact me.  
 Thank you for your time. Please feel free to contact me any time. I will be happy to answer any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mr. Yousefian

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I have read the policies and expectations for the **Pre-Calculus** class and understand them. If I choose not to meet these expectations, I am willing to accept the consequences.

Student Printed Name:  
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Parent/Guardian Printed Name:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments/Concerns:

\* Please note that everyone must take the final exam, even if you have an "A" in the course.