

Honors Algebra I 2017 – 2018 Syllabus

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Course Overview

Welcome to Algebra! This is a mathematically challenging course designed to help you learn the main ideas and procedures of algebra as well as gain a deep understanding of them. In this course, you will learn to think mathematically and become a better problem solver, two skills that will be useful in later math courses and in life. You will also have numerous opportunities to see the math you are learning at work in realistic situations. During this course you will develop an understanding of:

KY Core Content

- ❖ Solving Equations & Inequalities
- ❖ Linear Functions
- ❖ Scatter Plots & Linear Regression
- ❖ Systems of Linear Equations
- ❖ Arithmetic & Geometric Sequences
- ❖ Exponential Models
- ❖ Polynomial Expressions & Factoring Quadratics
- ❖ Quadratics Functions
- ❖ Solving Quadratics
- ❖ Linear Inequalities & Systems of Linear Inequalities
- ❖ Rational Exponents
- ❖ Domain & Range of Functions

High School Credit

As an advanced student in the 7th grade, you are enrolled in Honors Algebra 1. Students enrolled in an Honors Algebra 1 course in middle school will earn high school credit when they complete the course with an A or B. The grade earned in the class will become part of your child's high school transcript and GPA.

Required Materials

Pencils
Pen to grade
Loose-leaf Notebook paper
Spiral notebook

Technology Overview

Students will have access to TI-84plus graphing calculators during class (these cannot be taken out of the classroom). In the absence of a graphing calculator at home, the following apps and websites mimic the graphing calculator experience and can be accessed and utilized at no cost:

- Free GraCalc (App store)
- Algeo Graphing Calculator (Android)
- <https://www.desmos.com>

Grade Categories

Student Engagement (20%) - participation in class activities, notebook, warm-ups, class discussions, group work, teacher observation, etc.

Student Progressions (30%) - homework, class assignments, quizzes, skill checks, JCPS diagnostic assessments

Student Mastery (50%) - tests, JCPS proficiency assessments, projects, problem sets, performance assessments

Grading Scale

A = 90-100% (Above Standards)

B = 80-89% (Meets Standards)

C = 70-79% (Approaching Standards)

D = 60-69% (Below Standards)

U = below 60% (Substantially Below Standards)

Student Expectations

Students are expected to demonstrate positive and respectful conduct in the class as it leads to all students learning. These expectations align with Meyzeek's Bear P.R.I.D.E. for all students.

1. **Positive Attitude:**
 - a. Students should try their best, have positive thinking and be supportive to other students.
2. **Respect for All:**
 - a. Students will respect each other and themselves; students will not hinder their own or others' learning.
 - b. Students will follow the Meyzeek Middle School and JCPS Code of Conduct
3. **Improve Self-Discipline:**
 - a. Students are expected to be in their seats and working at the beginning of class time.
 - b. Students are expected to follow Ms. Richardson's classroom expectations.
4. **Do the Right Thing:**
 - a. All student work must be original. Copying of any nature (test, quizzes, homework, class work, and projects) will result in a grade of zero for all individuals involved, including the person allowing the copying to take place.
5. **Excellence Through Effort:**
 - a. Students are to come to class prepared with materials each day.
 - b. Students will turn in all assignments on the due date.

Participation

To meet the challenges of mathematics, you will be expected to actively participate. This means coming prepared, speaking up, interacting with others, explaining and sharing ideas, asking questions and listening to what others have to say. Discussing possibilities and concepts in this way will help you understand mathematics at a deeper level.

Binder

In mathematics, it is essential for students to be organized. Skills are continuous and needed to successfully progress. The binder is a tool used to help students reflect on their work. Students will keep all of their pre-games, notes, class assignments, homework, assessments and resources in the binder. Students will use these materials to help prepare for quizzes, tests and proficiency assessments. Binders will be checked several times throughout the grading period.

Homework

I believe homework is a valuable aid in helping students make the most of their experience in school. I give homework because it reinforces what has been taught in class, prepares students for upcoming lessons and helps students develop self-discipline, responsibility and organizational skills.

Homework is given on a regular basis and is graded based on completion. The problems from each lesson reinforce previously-learned skills and concepts and prepare students for new ones.

- Homework is checked daily. A zero will be given when homework is not completed, not out at the time of check, OR when work is not shown.
- Homework answers will be reviewed in class. Students are expected to make corrections on their homework.
- Work must be shown on all homework.
- **No more than one late** homework assignment will be accepted per grading period.
- Use your notes, classwork, previous homework, the Internet, and study teams to successfully complete the assignments. When using the CPM textbook, online help can be found at www.cpm.org. (Parents should monitor that this site is not utilized as simply a "copy site".)

Class Assignments

Students are given assignments during class to practice new and previous concepts. These assignments allow teachers to help redirect any misunderstanding. Assignments may be reviewed during class or collected and graded based upon completion.

Tests and Proficiency Assessments

- Tests are given at the end of each chapter and will assess current material and older material.
- District Assessments will be given three times throughout the year. Students will also take the 7th grade District Assessments to ensure readiness for
- Prepare for assessments. You are expected to be ready. I recommend you reread the chapter, study all daily work, and review Notes/Reference section.

Performance Assessments and Projects

Performance assessments will be given throughout units to assess student knowledge of content. Performance assessments may include, but are not limited to problem sets, projects, skills checks, concept checks.

Absences:

Absences: Attend class on a daily basis. It is important that you are here. If you are absent, it is YOUR responsibility to get the make-up work and turn it in on time. The school attendance policy will be strictly enforced. Assignments will be posted in the room for you to check when you return.

- You must ask for missed assignments three days from date of absence.
- You will have the number of days that you were absent plus one to make up missed work.
- If you miss a test you will make up the missed test in class on the day you return. You are responsible for the daily work missed while making up the test.
- Tests not made up within one week of return will be scored as a zero.
- When absent for a band concert/orchestra/similar activity, due dates for homework/projects/etc. stay the same. Students must turn them in during homeroom before going downstairs for the concert/activity. Work turned in late will result in a zero.

In Need of Extra Help

- I am available after school on Wednesdays until 3:15. This time can be used for extra help, a quiet place to do work, or to make up quizzes/tests/homework.
- Check out my website for homework assignments and other helpful information:
msarichardson.weebly.com

Every student has the opportunity to succeed in Math. I will do everything in my power to help students reach their full potential, but they must do their part as well. I expect all students to do their best. Please contact me at school any time you have questions, concerns, or compliments! I look forward to working with you this year.

**The teacher has discretion to change syllabus in order to meet student needs.