

Your Grade



Tests and Quizzes – 80%

Short quizzes will be given frequently and with or without warning. Quizzes are my best measure of your day-to-day ability to “do the math” and are therefore a large part of your grade. Many of the quiz problems will come directly from the homework. There will be **NO make-up quizzes**, regardless of your reason for absence (with few exceptions). If your absence is excused, your quiz average will not be negatively affected.

You can expect a large test at the end of every chapter. These will be announced in advance and we will spend class time reviewing and preparing. There will generally be only 8-10 tests over the course of this semester, so each chapter test weighs heavily in the calculation of your grade. Make-up tests for excused absences must be completed during your free time. You will have 2 days after you return to make an appointment with me in order to accomplish this. YOU ARE SOLELY & COMPLETELY RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN ABSENCES!!!!

Daily Homework, Projects & Other Assessments-20%

Homework is essential to your mastery of Algebra concepts and it is therefore expected that you will thoroughly complete daily homework assignments. No credit will be given for homework that shows no evidence of work. Homework is due the day after it is assigned unless otherwise noted. I will accept homework the day after it is due and mark off 50%. After that, **NO late homework will be accepted** unless due to an excused absence.

Semester averages will be based on the following percentages.

1st 9-weeks	45%
2 nd 9-weeks	45%
Semester Exam	10%

Calculators

Calculators are allowed in class for most purposes and allowed on the majority of tests and quizzes. We will spend time learning how to have the calculator work for us and will learn how to make decisions about when it is best to leave the calculator alone!

Therefore, it is essential that you have your own calculator and that you bring it with you **every** day.

A regular scientific calculator is adequate for the work we do in Algebra 1 and 2, although a graphing calculator will certainly work for us too! Many students have found the TI-30xa and TI-36 to be excellent tools for success.



Algebra 1 and 2

Course Description & Expectations

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Algebra is the study of properties of operations carried out on sets of numbers. Algebra is a generalization of arithmetic in which symbols, usually letters, are used to stand for numbers. The structure of algebra is based upon axioms (or postulates).

-Dictionary of Mathematics Terms



You will need in class EVERY DAY:

- ◆ **Your Algebra notebook or binder**
- ◆ **Loose-leaf paper**
- ◆ **A good* calculator (*see back)**
- ◆ **Pencil & eraser**
- ◆ **Your Brain & Good Humor**

*Your textbook will be used mostly for homework problems and for your review...
You have access to the online text from with the list of username and passwords on MyBigCampus Textbook website - <http://connected.mcgraw-hill.com/connected/login.do>*

What I Expect

- ◆ You will **be here** whenever you are not ill, and sometimes even when you are. If you are absent you will immediately come see me about making up missed work when you return.
- ◆ You will arrive **on time** every day with all your materials.
- ◆ You will make a reasonable effort to **complete every homework problem**. Homework is unavoidable and is assigned every day.
- ◆ You will follow the behavior rules and guidelines outlined in the handbook.
- ◆ You will **seek help** when you need it!
- ◆ You will **help each other** and you will learn from each other.
- ◆ You will **be nice to me** – I'll need it!

What You Can Expect

- ◆ I will **be here on time** every day unless I am genuinely ill.
- ◆ I will **challenge** you to think and use your brains. This course will not be easy!
- ◆ I will assign homework **every day** (and check it too!)
- ◆ I will **help you** to survive the course by being available for questions and conversation throughout the day.
- ◆ I will be **nice to you** – you'll need it too!

Need Help?

- ◆ Please come and see me for extra help during seminar, before, or after school.
- ◆ Your online textbook website has extra practice and videos to watch.
- ◆ You can find our class website at <http://www.mybigcampus.com>
- ◆ I am happy to hear from you AND your parents via email anytime!

