

Welcome to the Wonderful World of College Algebra!

Teacher: Mr. Henze

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Welcome to College Algebra! I'm excited to take you on a journey into college level math - it is one cool place! I want to make this a classroom that rocks, but I'm going to need your help. Here's what I could use from you...

Step One: Warm, awake, breathing body in class on time daily.

Step Two: Positive attitude - it makes all the difference. I'll do my best to always be energetic and positive about you as individuals and students as well as about COLLEGE ALGEBRA!! Wahoo! If you'll do the same, we'll have a great time!

Step Three: Respect - R-E-S-P-E-C-T - that's where it is! Respect yourself, respect your classmates, and respect me as a teacher. This fosters a great learning environment for us all. Please only utilize electronic devices (even including calculators!) when appropriate.

Step Four: Communicate - if you have input, let me know. If you have ideas of learning-based activities you'd like to do with the material we're studying, please share them with me - I'll accommodate as many of them as possible.

Step Five: Have FUN!!! Yes, it's true - school can be fun! Having fun is one of the best kept secrets of learning - let's expose it!

OK, so now that you know a little of what you can do to help me out, let me give you some input on things to help foster your success in this class.

Catalog Description: This course includes the study of quadratic, polynomial, rational, logarithmic, and exponential functions; systems of equations; progressions; sequences and series; and matrices and determinants.

Grading: The student's average will be based on the following percentages:

Exams:	60%	
Quizzes	20%	
Class work and Homework	20%	
Coursework Average (80% of College Algebra/ISM first semester grade)	100% x .8 =	80 possible points
Semester Exam	100% x .2 =	20 possible points
At the end of each semester, all students who are passing will be awarded ½ high school math credit.		

Tutoring is available by the instructor in L107 before school MTRF from 8:00-8:30AM and after school on Wednesday until 5pm. If meetings arise that conflict with set tutoring times, I will post information about them ASAP. If you're lost, please come get help!

Cell Phones, Ipods, MP3 players, etc: Turn off all cell phones or place them on etiquette mode. Do not text or play games on phones or other devices during class. Other rules are posted in the classroom and in the student handbook.

More Info Specific for our Section of College Algebra

Required Materials: 3-ring binder (Ideally - just a section in a large binder), pencil, spiral notebook and/or loose-leaf paper.

Optional Materials: Basic Four-Function or Scientific Calculator

Note: In this course, there are only certain times when the use of a graphing calculator will be permitted. If you would like to use a calculator, you can provide your own basic four-function or scientific calculator & will be permitted to use it throughout the entire course on both assignments & assessments. You may NOT use a cell phone calculator on any tests or quizzes.

Homework Assignments will be checked on days indicated on your schedule & questions will be answered on any problem spots. Homework will be graded on a 5 point scale for completion as its purpose is to help you learn and grow, not as a measure of perfection. Work must be shown to earn credit!

Quizzes are scheduled on a regular basis and check your understanding of recently covered concepts. They are generally 5 to 10 questions in length and only cover one to two sections at a time. Please use these quizzes as a resource in better preparing for upcoming tests.

Tests will be given at the completion of each unit and to assess student comprehension. There will be at least one every three weeks and will be shown on your tentative 9-week overview. For tests that have a group component, the groups will be assigned base on the level of homework completion for that unit & one group assignment will be randomly selected for grading when they are all turned in at the end of the period.

Grading Scale:	90 - 100	A		
	80 - 89	B	0 - 69	F (Ouchy mama!)
	70 - 79	C		

Make-up Work for excused absences must be completed by the end of the day the test over that unit is given. As a general rule, the time you have to complete make-up work for full credit is the same as the amount of time you were excused.

Late work may be turned in the for 80% credit until the end of the day the test over that unit is given. Work for unexcused absences will also receive 80% credit. This late work policy emphasizes the value in the actual completion of the assignment even if something happens where an assignment cannot be completed in a timely manner.

The A-List! Everybody wants in! - The A-List is a VIP club for those students getting an A on their tests. The list changes every time we have another test - you can be out just as fast as you were in so keep on your toes! What's the benefit? You are on the A-list from when you get an A on your test until the next test is given. During that period of time, you only have to **complete half of every ON TIME assignment for full credit** - that's right - half done for full credit!!! You pick the half of the problems you want to do - it's craziness! Keep getting those A's and you may have halved homework all year! (**Latework must be fully completed for 80% credit.**)

Note: Reviews are exempt from A-list policies and must be fully completed by everyone.

Parent/Guardian Page

Parents/Guardians: I look forward to working with you and your students. I am so excited to have the opportunity to fire up your students for mathematics & help them gain a great foundation in college level mathematics! I thank you in advance for the support I am sure you will give both myself and your child to further his education. I also encourage you to contact me at any time if you have questions or concerns about the class itself or your child's performance. Parent portal is an excellent resource for keeping track of grades and my teacher web page is a great resource for checking on test days and assignments before they are due. I will make sure to keep it as accurate as possible for both you and your student. Progress reports will be sent out by the school every three weeks to help keep you informed as well. E-mail is the best way to communicate efficiently with me. My e-mail is ksoren1@neisd.net. I look forward to meeting you at Greenback Night!

Student Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

It is best to reach me at Parent email: _____

and/or Parent Phone#: _____

Any Additional Comments: _____



GO MAVS!