Algebra II Course Syllabus 2008-2009

Ms. Sawsan Mahmassani
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(281) 920-8000, ext. 6124
Room Number: N121

Conference Time: 5th Period
Tutorial Times: Before school and after school
Lesson Plans: http:\whssmahmass.edublogs.org by appointment

Resources and Materials:
- Use of a TI-83 and/or TI-84 and/or TI-89 Graphing Calculator
- Note Taking Guide
- Practice Workbook
- TAKS Workbook
- Organized Mathematics binder (1 ½- to 2 inches) with dividers, College- Ruled paper and graph paper
- Pencils (HB No. 2) (all work should be done in pencil), red pen (for corrections on homework)
- Straightedge for graphical work

Course Description/Objectives:
- **Overview:** Algebra II is a preparatory course for Pre-Calculus with an emphasis on the study of functions and their relationships.
- **Content:** Linear, Absolute Value, Quadratic, Square Root, Polynomial, Rational, Exponential, Logarithmic and Trigonometric Functions and their relationships, Conics, Sequences and Series, Probability, Parametric Equations, Vectors, Limits.
- **Instructional methods:** lecture, discovery and group work.
- **Goals:** critical reading, analytical thinking, creative synthesis and problem-solving, and attention to detail regarding all Algebra topics.
- **Objective:** preparation for Stanford, TAKS, and Pre Calculus course.
- **Major work:** Homework, ClassWork, Quizzes, Tests, Projects, Exam.

Course Calendar/Schedule:
- **Assignments:** Homework will be assigned daily.
- **Due dates:**
  - Homework is due the class following the lesson.
  - TAKS practice problems are due on the 1st class day of the following week.
- **Quizzes** may or may not be announced in advance – Be prepared at any time for an evaluation of your progress. Expect 2 to 3 quizzes per week over any topic covered.
- **Tests and Exams** will be announced in advance and may include any material covered including SAT, ACT, TAKS, etc. (Stanford and TAKS results are Big Test grades).

Course Policies:
- **Attendance:**
  - The student should have telephone numbers of at least two classmates to confirm class lessons and assignments should an absence occur.
  - If an absence occurs, the student is responsible for obtaining the missing notes from classmates.
  - If an absence occurs, the student is responsible for obtaining any handouts from the teacher.
  - For clarification of class material that was missed, attend the tutorials for assistance.
  - For foreseeable absences such as field trips, athletic events, etc., notify your teacher in advance and turn in any relevant work early.
Tardies:
- A tardy is a result of not being in an assigned class seat when the bell rings.

Class Participation:
- Students will work cooperatively with their peers and present work on the board when appropriate.

Guidelines for turning in assignments:
- All assignments should have your name, date, and assignment description at the top of the page.
- Student work should demonstrate understanding of the problem assigned.
- Each problem solution with appropriate supporting work on all assignments, quizzes, tests, exams where appropriate should demonstrate understanding of the concepts being learned and proper usage of mathematical symbols. An answer without supportive work is not acceptable.

Make-ups:
- Homework assignments due on a day of absence should be sent in with another student or turned in on the first day of return to school.
- Homework assigned on a day of absence is due the next day of return. Missed quizzes or tests, due to an absence, are to be taken the first day of return to school.

Tutorials:
- Tutorials will be available before school or after school by appointment otherwise, in Room N121.
- Students must attend tutorials, if they have a D or F on any Report.

Class Policies

Expected Behavior:
- Respect each other (instructor, peers and yourself).
- Raise your hand for permission to speak.
- Participation in classroom activities.
- Completion of all homework assignments.
- Late work, when accepted will not be graded out of 100%.
- Students are expected to read the lesson in the textbook the first day it is introduced in class.
- Be present and on time to class with all necessary supplies.
- Participate in independent study groups.
- Use the Forum (http://whsforums.com) at least once a week to ask questions.
- Handle any concerns with maturity and responsibility.

Unacceptable Behavior:
- Disrespectful to instructor and peers (include using profanity).
- Cheating in any form, such copying, looking at another student’s paper, etc.
- Incomplete or non-existent homework assignments.
- Visible cell phones and non-calculator electronic equipment are not allowed in the class.

Grades Determination
- Overall Six Weeks Grade:
  - Homework 15%
  - Little Tests/Quizzes 25%
  - Big Tests/Projects 60%
- Bonus Opportunities:
  - Academic excellence demonstrated on problem solutions, projects, etc.
We have read and understand the course description/objectives and class policies
as outlined in the Algebra II Course Syllabus 2008-2009.

________________________________________    _______________________________________
Student Name (printed)                                                    Student Signature

________________________________________    ________________________________________
Parent/Guardian Name (printed)                                     Parent/Guardian Signature

________________________________________    ________________________________________
Parent/Guardian Contact Number                                 Parent/Guardian Contact Email

________________________________________    ________________________________________
Date

Please note any other information that is relevant to your child’s success in this course.

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