

HONORS PRE-CALCULUS COURSE GUIDELINES

Mrs. McCarthy – Room B201

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The **Honors Pre-Calculus** course provides students with an in-depth study of functions as well as trigonometry. Appropriate technology, from manipulatives to calculators and application software, may be used for instruction and assessment. This course will be more rigorous than previous mathematics courses, therefore your effort must be significantly greater as well.

Pre-Calculus Topics to be covered:

- **Functions Overview – Key characteristics**
- **Polynomial Functions**
- **Rational Functions**
- **Exponential and Logarithmic Functions**
- **Conic Sections**
- **Trigonometry:**
 - The Unit Circle
 - Graphing Trigonometric Functions
 - Trigonometric Identities
 - Triangle Trigonometry
- **Parametric Equations/Vectors/Matrices**
- **Polar Coordinates**
- **Limits** – an introduction to Calculus

Supplies

- **BIG Eraser** (it is hard to erase a full sheet of paper with the tiny eraser on your pencil) ☺
- **Pencils (work written in pen will not be accepted)**
- **A 3-ring binder with pocket dividers (1.5 inch-2 inch)** to be used only for math.
- **Graph paper and Loose Leaf Notebook Paper**
- **Earbuds**
- **Calculator.** A TI-84+ or TI-84+CE is required for this course.

Assignment Policy

Assignments are given to reinforce what has been learned in class, prepare for upcoming lessons, extend and generalize concepts, teach responsibility, and help students develop positive study habits.

- Assignments will be given **daily** and will be posted in **Canvas**. Full solutions will be posted in Canvas as well.
- Your success in this course is directly proportional to your dedication to homework assignments.
- Assignments must be worked on during class. If time does not permit the work to be completed, it should be taken home and finished.
- Homework quizzes and random checks will occur throughout the semester

Grading Policy

- Grades will be based on tests, quizzes, homework, and online tools (Desmos/Delta Math/etc)
- Tests will be given at the end of each unit and will be announced.
- Quizzes will be short, frequent and may be unannounced.
- Your nine-week's grade will be calculated by total points and may be averaged at any time by dividing a student's total number of points by the total number of possible points
- If a student is caught cheating, a penalty of **zero** will be given for that assignment, quiz, or test and reported to the honor committee for Beta, NHS, etc.

Attendance and Tardies

- It is to your benefit to be in class every day. Use good judgment in scheduling doctor appointments, and other activities so that they do not interfere with your responsibility to attend class.
- If you have a planned absence, PLEASE let me know at least 2 days in advance.
- Email me or send a text through Remind in the event of an absence and I will send you the days note sheet, homework, etc.

Make-up Work

- This course moves at a very quick pace, therefore attendance is very important. When you are not in class, **it is your responsibility to make-up any missed assignments.** Copy any notes for the class you missed from a classmate.
- **When you are absent on a test day or review day only, you will be required to take the test on the day you return.**
- After one week any assignment, quiz, or test not made up will become a zero.

Classroom Expectations

- Follow all school rules and use class time wisely.
- **Give respect – Get respect!**
- Be ready to begin class when the tardy bell rings. There will be a daily warm-up to be completed upon entering class each day.
- Communicate regularly with Mrs. McCarthy when you need help, don't be afraid to ask!
- Bathroom breaks should be taken for emergencies only and should not be taken during teacher-led instruction. No bathroom breaks during the first 10 mins/last 10 mins
- Cell phone use not permitted – cell phones and earbuds must be stored in your bookbag during class
- I will dismiss you, not the bell

Possible **consequences** for breaking the classroom rules include phone calls to parents, detentions, assignments of glossary pages, as well as actions in accordance with the School Discipline Plan.

Help Sessions and Tutoring

- **Afterschool homework help sessions** will be available several days each week.

*Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.
~ Martin Luther King Jr.*

