

PreCalculus

Teacher: Debbie Rodell

Room: 169

Conference Time: 8th Period (3:15-4:05)

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

The primary objective of pre-calculus is to use mathematical concepts as a tool to solve many types of application problems. Pre-calculus is a skill building as well as a problem solving course. Technology is used as a tool for concept development, solving non-routine application problems, and verifying computation.

COURSE TOPICS

Fall Semester

Some functions and graphing of functions
Trigonometric functions
Graphing Trigonometric Functions
Applications of trigonometry
Inverses of trigonometric functions
Trigonometry equations and identities
Vectors, parametric equations with applications
Polar coordinates and complex numbers
Other enrichment topics

Spring Semester

Functions
Graphing functions
Conic sections
Polynomial functions
Inequalities and linear programming
Exponential and logarithmic functions
Sequences and series
Extensive application problems including finance, sports, biology, etc.
Limits and an introduction to calculus
Other enrichment topics

Textbook: *Pre-Calculus with Limits 3e Ron Larson*

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS AND PROCEDURES

1. Bring all materials to class.

- A notebook or folder is needed to keep all homework and handouts and should be with you every day.
- Calculators are required. You need to purchase one. I do not have calculators to check out or borrow. I would suggest purchasing a TI-84 or 83+.
- You need something to write on and something to write with!!!

2. Enter the room in an orderly fashion.

- Upon entering the room you are expected to take your seat. Place the homework questions that need explanation on the side board including page number. I will only go over problems posted.

3. Come to class on time.

- Any student entering the room after the bell will be considered tardy. School tardy policy will be followed.

ABSENCES

- Students are expected to be in class on-time every day. If a student misses class, he or she must clear up the absence immediately upon returning to school. At the end of the grading period, a student must have all absences cleared to be eligible for dropped quiz.
- If you have an unforeseeable absence, it is your responsibility to get missed work the day you return to school and to make it up in accordance with school policy.
- If you are absent for a school-related event or a college visit, it is your responsibility to make arrangements for missed work BEFORE the absence.

RULES AND GRADING POLICY

HOMEWORK 10%

- Usually assigned on a daily basis. Late homework will be accepted for 70% up to the test day. Homework will be accepted after the test day for a 50%. You may NOT drop a quiz if you have any missing homework grades. If you earn a 90 or above on the original test, all homework grades for that unit will change to 100. If homework is handed in with incomplete questions you will receive it back with an INC on it. You must complete the missing problems and hand it in for a late grade.

QUIZZES 30%

- Announced and unannounced quizzes
- One quiz grade will be dropped per grading period in compliance with the class attendance policy and homework policy.
- There will be no re-quizzes.
- Quiz average will be calculated as a weighted averaged to be explained in class!

TESTS 60%

- Three or four per nine weeks
- You will take a test if present unless you've had extensive excused absences immediately prior to the test day.
- Being absent the day before the test does not excuse you from taking the test at the scheduled time. All reviews are on the calendar and the answers are posted on my website!
- If you are absent on the test day, you will take the test the day you return to school. Failure to do this may forfeit your right to retest.

RETESTS

- Most tests are available for retesting once. **(The last test of the semester will not be retestable!)** Your final test grade will be the average of your original test and retest grades. There will be designated times to review your original test before you retest. In order to retest, you must attend one tutorial and have no homework zeros in the unit. Retest dates will be posted.

TUTORING

- I will be available by appointment. Just ask! Most days I will arrive at 8:10 and be available to help you. There will always be tutorials set up the morning of quizzes and tests.

The course calendar can be accessed from a computer through my website. To access the calendar, go to www.whschaps.com.

Throughout the year if you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me through email at drodell@eanesisd.net or by phone at 732-9280, extension 33420.