

Advanced Algebra

Course Description:

Algebra is a generalization of arithmetic in which letters representing numbers are combined according to the rules of arithmetic. Throughout this school year we will strengthen and build upon the foundation of Algebra skills that each student currently has. The course will address familiar topics dealing with properties of numbers, graphs, inequalities, linear equations and quadratic equations. In addition, we will explore new topics, including matrices, logarithms, trigonometry and conic sections.

Required Materials:

- Pencil
- 3-ring binder, 1 ½" or larger
- Loose-leaf paper or notebook for work paper
- Textbook
- Calculator: **Recommended TI-Nspire CX**, if you plan on going through Calculus at AHS order the TI-Nspire CX CAS. You can use a TI-83/84 Plus graphing calculator in place of the TI-Nspire CX (All calculators can be ordered through AHS. Order forms will be available on the first day of class). **If you currently own a graphing calculator you do not have to purchase a new one.**

Grading Policy

Students must earn a "C-" or better to proceed to the next course.

- Assessments / Projects 65%
- Quizzes 35%

Missed test or quiz

See Mr. Fechter to make arrangements for missed quizzes/tests.

Grading Scale

A	94 ↑	B-	80 - 83	D+	67 - 69
A-	90 - 93	C+	79 - 77	D	64 - 66
B+	87 - 89	C	74 - 76	D-	60 - 63
B	84 - 86	C-	70 - 73	F	59 ↓

Grades will NOT be rounded up to the nearest percentage. This means an 89.99% is a B+.

Extra Help

6:30 – 7:05

6th, 9th, 10th periods by appointment

I am NOT available after school because I also teach at North Shore Middle school after the high school day.

Homework

Homework is an important component in this course. There will be daily assignments that must be completed on a regular basis. Because each math lesson builds on the previous one, failure to do daily work usually results in the student falling too far behind to be able to catch up. **This means the course must be repeated and no credit will be issued.**

***BONUS: All homework complete and on time for each chapter will add 5% to the chapter test.**

Each *late* assignment reduces the additional percent added to the test by 1%, while each *missing* assignment reduces the additional percent added by 2%. If an assignment is not turned in by the day before the unit assessment, it counts as missing. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!**

QUIZZES

There will be 2 - 3 quizzes per week. About 25% will be dropped at the end of each quarter.

TESTS

There will be a test at the end of each unit. This will usually constitute a calculator and a NO calculator section.

LATE WORK

If you are absent and it is an excused absence, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed, complete and turn it in **within three school days** for full credit. Extra curricular activities such as sports, drama, clubs, field trips, etc., do not fall under excused absences. You are responsible for the work on days missed due to these reasons. If your absence is unexcused, your homework will count as late and quizzes, tests, and projects drop 10% each day.

Cell Phone/iPod Policy

Cell Phone and iPods are not allowed to be out in my classroom unless specified by me. The first time you are caught texting, messaging, etc you will be warned. The second time it is taken away for the remainder of the school day. The third time it is taken away until a resolution is reached between your parents/guardians and myself.

Parents: DO NOT TEXT OR CALL YOUR SON/DAUGHTER DURING CLASS!! If you really need to contact them, call the office and they will call your son/daughter down.

Students: CLAIMING YOU HAVE YOUR PHONE OUT BECAUSE YOUR PARENTS TEXTED/CALLED YOU IS NOT AN ACCEPTABLE EXCUSE.

CLASSROOM CONDUCT

Respect is the key word in this classroom. Respect for other students, the teacher, and school property is essential to create a positive learning environment. General school rules apply at all times. In addition the following rules apply to this class:

- 1) Students are to be in their seats when the tone sounds and remain there until the teacher dismisses the class. **(4 tardies results in a Saturday detention.)**
- 2) Use the restroom and drinking fountain before coming to class. Students will be allowed to sign out to the bathroom **during work time.** If you make a habit of using the restroom during my class, restrictions may apply.
- 3) Students are to keep hands, feet, and objects to themselves at all times.
- 4) Students are to bring materials to class, and participate in class activities.
- 5) Students will maintain an appropriate noise level during class time.
- 6) No profanity (spoken or otherwise) or inappropriate comments are allowed.

PERSEVERANCE:

Students will be presented with problems, activities, questions, projects, etc. that are not going to be easy to solve or immediately obvious on how to approach. Part of this class will involve working through our struggles and not getting immediate answers of "what to do". This is to help students to develop critical thinking strategies, intrinsic questioning, and self-reliance in difficult areas.

Parent/Guardian Contact:

Any parent or guardian with questions about the course or their student's progress is encouraged to e-mail me at fechter@arrowheadschoools.org. It is easier to reach me via email, but you can also call and leave a voice mail at (262) 369-3611 x 3135. I will return the call as soon as possible.

STUDENT/PARENT/GUARDIAN/TEACHER AWARENESS:

Student: My teacher has explained the course information to me. I understand it and will honor it while in the classroom.

Name (print): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: I/We have read the course information. I/We understand it and will support it.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Teacher: I will be fair and consistent in administering the course information as previously outlined.

Signature:  _____ Date 9/3/13