



Algebra II - Course Syllabus 2016-17

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Textbook: *College Preparatory Mathematics, Core Connections Algebra 2, 2013* supplemented by current articles & educational resources for teaching Algebra II.

Parent/Student Resources:

<http://synergy.district6.org/>

To track grade & attendance and to see biweekly calendar of assignments and due dates (Stamp Sheets)

<http://www.cpm.org/students/homework/>

To help students with problems at home.

Click on *Core Connections Algebra 2*

Course Overview:

This course is designed to continue students' progress in mathematics. This course involves study of linear and quadratic functions, arithmetic and geometric sequences, exponential functions, factoring, and polynomial and rational expressions. Theory and skill application are emphasized through work samples, projects, and application tests that require students to communicate, both written and orally, about mathematical concepts. Algebra II may not be taken without first taking Geometry unless it is taken, with CAHPS administration permission, simultaneously with Geometry. Successful completion of this course prepares students for Pre-Calculus and/or Statistics while also helping students prepare for the State Math assessment, which students must pass in order to meet high school graduation requirements, and it meets the basic math requirement for admission into a four-year college.

The pace and the content of this course are challenging, but familiar, because you have been introduced to various topics in Algebra I already. These topics will be studied in greater detail. The use of TI-83/84 graphing calculators will be incorporated.

Student Class Work Expectations:

Students will regularly work collaboratively in teacher-designated teams.

As teams need the focus of all team members to be the most successful, the class will consist of periods of time when students will be required to only talk with their team members. Students are also expected to follow the 95/5 rule where 95% of the time they are discussing math concepts.

Student questions to the teacher will rarely be met with "yes/ no," "right/ wrong," "the way you should solve it is" The philosophy behind the program dictates the teacher ask what the team understands about the problem, what the team has tried, and make sure everyone in the team is an active participant. The teacher may then follow with suggestions or more questions that guide students' thinking. In other words, this class is not a "sit and get" course. It is my belief that students learn the material and retain it, if they experience the content, process and internalize the material, and are able to articulate it in their own words.

Students should expect to regularly learn new concepts with their team. Students can also expect to struggle while learning new concepts. While it is understood that the struggle may be uncomfortable, students are expected to stay on

task and persevere with their team to understand. When people learn and practice in a new way, which may include struggle, it grows their brain and solidifies learning.

Grading:

- **Essential Learning Target (ELT) Tests (50%)** You must earn 70% or better on every ELT test to earn a grade other than an “I” or Incomplete (See ELT Test Policies). There are many opportunities *before* each ELT test for extra support on mathematical concepts being assessed.
- **Application of Learning (40%)** Knowledge demonstrated by classroom assignments, graded Learning Target assignments, homework, quizzes, projects/performance tasks, work samples, and application tests that help demonstrate student’s current level of understanding/progress towards mastery of learning targets.
- **Cumulative Final Exam (10%)** The exam is a cumulative evaluation of the material studied during the trimester. Review assistance and class time is provided for exam preparation.
- **Skills Practice (0%)** Consists of assignments that will **NOT** be graded, but are *important* for mastery of learning targets.

A = 90% and above

B = 80%- 89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% and below

Essential Learning Target (ELT) Test Policies:

- **In order to earn a grade other than “I” you must earn 70% or better on each ELT test.**
- ELT Tests can be retaken, if needed, to achieve 70%, but before a retake is scheduled students must meet the retake requirements:
 - Students must earn at least 60% of the Application of Learning/Skills Practice points before they may retake an ELT test.
 - Students must correctly show proof of preparation (ELT Test Autopsy) before retaking an ELT test.
 - Students may choose to retake an ELT test they have already passed in order to improve their score. However, only one retake to increase a passing score is allowed, and the most recent score will be recorded in the gradebook. If a student retakes a previously passed test and scores below 70%, they will be required to take the test again to meet demonstrate proficiency.
- The test administered to you as a retake will be different than the first test but will be the same in content.
- All tests must be completed on test day. I allow students unlimited time on every assessment if they are willing to work through their lunch or come in after school. When retaking a test, be sure to find a period of time in which you are able to complete the entire test.

*In an effort for continuous improvement, the CAHPS Math Team reevaluates our policies each year. There is one important change this year that affects when all ELT tests must be retaken and passed with a 70% or better. Last year, students were given two weeks after the end of the term to retake ELT tests. This year, retakes must be done before the end of the term; no extra two weeks. We believe this change better supports our students because:

- Students can start the next term fresh.
- Students won’t be trying to juggle the previous trimester learning with the new learning from trimester 2. *Note:* We found that students using the two week window, for the most part, fell behind the subsequent trimester so the cycle of always being in catch up mode repeated itself.
- The new policy aligns with what is expected in other CAHPS classes so students don’t get confused about the expectation and timelines.

Just to clarify, all ELT test retakes must be completed by the end of the trimester. There is no longer a two week window in order to retake ELT tests from the previous trimester.

In order to help students meet the deadline of the end of the term, math teachers will collaborate to offer office hours where students are allowed to get help and retake tests. Office hours/extra support times will be posted on the CAHPS website and classroom doors by September 26, 2016. We will also have copies available at Open House. All math teachers are available to help all students outside of class, regardless of what class they are in.

Summer School Policies:

For the past several years, CAHPS has had a math summer program to help students retrieve credit for a math class in which they received an incomplete because they didn't pass all their ELTs for that term. **That program may not be available in June 2017.** To be sure your student is able to enroll in the next level of math in 2017-18, they should focus on passing all ELT tests before the end of each trimester. In the event that the summer program is available, students who have incompletes in more than one trimester must have teacher approval to participate. In those cases, there is often not enough time in the 1-2 weeks to get everything done and it is best to retake the course. **In order to receive the math credit for Trimester 3, students need to have passed all ELT tests in Trimester 3 as well as Trimester 2.**

Required Materials:

Algebra II Binder: In order for students to be successful in personal management, organization is key. I ***strongly recommend*** students keep a ***separate binder or separate section of a larger binder*** for Algebra 2 handouts, as there will be many. The notebook should be a sturdy, three-ring, loose-leaf binder with a hard cover. The binder should have dividers to separate it into five sections:

Classwork/Notes

Bellwork

Homework

Lined and Graph Paper

Quizzes

Algebra II Spiral Notebook: This notebook will be used along with handouts for students to process Algebra II content and reflect on their learning.

Other materials:

- Stamp Sheets in front of binder
- TI-83 or TI-84 calculator (see Graphing Calculator Hand Out)
- pencils and eraser
- colored pen for correcting, highlighting and/or note-taking
- colored pencils (optional)

*Students who plan on enrolling in higher-level mathematics later in high school or in college will also need a TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator. It is a requirement for Pre-Calculus, Calculus, as well as many other college-level courses. Please talk to me if you are unable to attain a calculator. Used calculators in good shape can be found on Amazon.com or posted by many SOU students on Craigslist for a considerably cheaper price than buying them new.

STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Mastering the learning targets in Algebra II requires students to **actively think** about what they know and to relate that to new ideas to be learned. To be successful, students must:

1. Be **actively involved** in class/group work, **ask questions, and contribute** to discussions.
2. **Complete or attempt all assignments.** All assignments are designed to help you practice and master the material.
3. **Do your homework on time** so that you are prepared to learn with the rest of the class.
4. **Prepare in advance** for tests and quizzes and group learning activities (projects, Socratic seminars, etc.)
5. **Not distract** self and/or others students from the opportunity to learn.
6. **Follow the guidelines** set by the school and the district student behavior code.
7. Come to class **on time and prepared** with materials.
8. **In group-work, use the 95 / 5 rule...** (95% math / 5% social, only after the math is done!)
9. Remember that **cell phones** and other electronic devices **should be OFF & out of sight** unless explicitly teacher approved for a given activity & then it must only be used in the manner approved. If such devices are out or disrupt class by ringing, a cell phone referral will be issued as per CAHPS discipline policy.
10. **Be safe** and follow all classroom rules
11. **Be respectful** to the teacher, fellow classmates, and any guests to our classroom (guest speakers, substitute teachers, student teachers, etc.)

Attendance (Follow school & District policies):

Attendance and participation are **vital to your success** in Algebra II. We will be doing a lot of group work/activities which are difficult to make up. Group work and other learning activities are most valuable when done in class with other students to enhance learning. Without good attendance and active learning, acquiring the knowledge and skills of Algebra II is nearly impossible. Please notify me in advance if you will miss class for any **planned** activities.

PARENTS

If you need to contact your student for an emergency or other reason during the school day, PLEASE call the school phone number (541) 494-5260 and your student will be contacted. Please do **not** call or text your student's cell number during class because it causes disruption to your and other student's learning.

The simplest way to reach me is by email (marissa.martes@district6.org). Times that I am most available for parents are before school between 8:00 -8:50 am, and during my 1st period prep 8:50-10:00 am. I generally respond to emails within 24 hours. For student help outside of class, my availability may vary. Please email me for current days and times.

If you have checked your student's grade on Synergy and are not satisfied with your student's progress, please first ask to see your student's Stamp Sheet, which is collected every two weeks. Generally, students who are not completing the work inside and outside of class, will not be successful on homework quizzes, tests, and other assessments.

..... **Cut here!**

Algebra II SYLLABUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

Note: Please read this syllabus carefully and sign it, have your parents/guardians read it and sign it, and return this portion to me by _____ Be sure to place the rest of this document into your binder for Algebra II.

I have read and understand the course expectations and policies:

Print Student Name (Please print neatly)

Student Signature

You, your daughter/son, and I are partners in your students' education. You can help him/her succeed by checking with them as often as possible about their progress and looking with them at their assignment completion and/or needs. Please also plan on attending parent/student teacher conferences. Contact me any time with questions or concerns.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent/Guardian Email – please print neatly

Best Phone Number(s) to reach you

First preference: _____

Second option (if available): _____

It is often easiest to call during the day. Is it okay to call you at work if there is something I would like or need to talk to you about your student? *Circle one* Yes No

If yes, work number: _____