

PRE-ALGEBRA COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE: Pre-Algebra

INSTRUCTOR: Ms. Jessie Fowls jessie.fowls@saints.org

TEXTBOOK: *Pre-Algebra* Hold McDougal, 2012

REQUIRED

SUPPLIES: Lined Paper, Graph Paper, Pencils, Erasers, Protractor, Ruler, Scientific Calculator, Colored Pencils

PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Middle School Math

COURSE PURPOSE

Pre-Algebra builds upon the essential skills of arithmetic as they apply to algebra. Real numbers and linear equations, linear inequalities, factoring, fractions, graphing and some elements of geometry are stressed in preparation for Algebra 1.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A. Course Outcomes

This course is designed to help students:

1. Evaluate variable and numerical expressions using the order of operations.
2. Use arithmetic properties to evaluate expressions, simplify variable expressions, and solve equations.
3. Write and solve two-step and multi-step equations, equations having like terms and involving parentheses, and equations with variables on both sides.
4. Find factors of numbers and monomials, simplify fractions, understand GCF and LCD, and rewrite expressions containing negative or zero exponents.
5. Write, compare, and order rational numbers. Students also solve equations and inequalities with rational numbers.
6. Find and interpret a unit rate, solve proportions, find ratios, and find probability of an event.
7. Use fractions and decimals to find the percent of a number, and solve problems involving percentages, interest, sales tax, discounts, and markups.
8. Simplify, graph, and solve linear equations.
9. Use square roots, simplify radical expressions, use the Pythagorean Theorem, and apply the distance and midpoint formulas.
10. Find unknown angle measures and classify triangles, polygons, and quadrilaterals.

B. Course Outline

1. *Assignment Pages* are given to the students every chapter with each assignment and test clearly laid out to aid in student planning and organization.
2. *Homework* is assigned each class and is corrected the following class period.
3. *Quizzes* will typically be given halfway through each chapter.
4. *Tests* will be given at the end of each chapter.

5. *Extra Credit* opportunities may be given throughout the year based on the performance of the class. They will be offered verbally or on the assignment pages.
6. *Math in the Real World* is a semester project that will be worth one test grade.

GRADE DESCRIPTION

Semester grades are cumulative and will be calculated as follows:

Tests & Projects	60%
Daily Assignments, Quizzes	25%
Semester Exam	15%

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All homework and notes must be done in **pencil** on loose-leaf paper or in a spiral notebook (*turned in without spiral confetti*). The scoring for daily assignments will be on a 10 point scale and will be graded in class, checked for completion, or graded by me. The grades given for the majority of the assignments will be as follows:

<u>Incorrect</u>	<u>Points Awarded (out of 10)</u>
0-1	10
2-3	9
4-6	8
7-9	7
10+	Redo/correct for credit

Late work will be accepted up to two class periods after the original due date. The student will have the opportunity to earn 80% after one late reminder. After the second reminder, the student is still responsible for turning in the completed assignment but will earn a 50%.

Class Expectations

1. Encourage LEARNING.
2. RESPECT yourself, adults, and your classmates.
3. Be RESPONSIBLE.
4. Be ACCOUNTABLE.

The Obvious requirements for success

1. Cheating is absolutely not acceptable and will guarantee a zero on the assignment or test along with a trip to the office for administrative consequences.
2. Be on time and be prepared.
3. Complete assignments neatly and on time.
4. Don't wait to ask for help - I'm here to help you succeed.

Consequences for negative behavior include

1. Behavioral reminder, loss of privilege, and/or work detail.
2. Sent out of class & student/teacher conference.
3. Parent notification.
4. Sent to the office.

Attendance & Tardiness

Absences will affect your performance in this class **more than anything else**. It is your responsibility to make up any work you missed. You will have up to the number of class days you were gone to make up your work for full credit for excused absences. If you participate in sports or other school related events that cause you to be absent from class, your homework must be turned in **before** you leave school.

Tardiness: I expect all students to be in class and seated when the bell rings. If you need to visit your locker after class has started, you will be marked tardy. Excessive tardiness will result in a student-teacher conference and parent notification.

School Policies

Students are subject to all academic policies of the school as printed in the Student Handbook. Furthermore, it is each student's responsibility to read and follow all academic policies of the school.

- ★ Students are expected to come prepared to class with all their necessary, required supplies. If a student does not come prepared, this will be noted and may affect his/her grade.
- ★ Cell phone usage in my class is not allowed, unless I give permission. All devices, including ipods and earbuds, are not to be seen, heard, or 'felt' during class. If I spot a device in use, it will be mine for the remainder of the class and potentially the day. This is especially important to note when tempted to use your cell phone's calculator. That is not allowed.
- ★ All backpacks are to be placed completely under your seat/desk, up against the wall, or somewhere else, entirely out of the aisles.
- ★ Feel free to contact me via email throughout the year. However, I will only respond to student emails that are written properly and respectfully. Emails should include at the very least, the following components: Salutation, capitalization where necessary, proper use of English, and a closing.



Sign and return to Ms. Fowls

Student Name: _____

Pre-Algebra

We have read and discussed the class details and expectations. We agree that they will be followed and supported.

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Date