



Algebra 2 Course Syllabus – Mrs. Sargent Spring 2010

Course: Algebra 2

Text: Algebra 2 – An Incremental Development, 3rd Edition. Saxon Publishers.

Prerequisites: Algebra I

Course Goals: Students will develop advanced problem-solving skills through the use of advanced mathematical concepts and techniques to include the graphical and mathematical representation and manipulation of linear and non-linear equations, set theory, geometry, and trigonometry coupled with the use of scientific notation and vector addition/subtraction in the solution of practical problems.

Methods: Instructional methods will consist of lectures, multimedia presentations, small group problem solving, and other methods to maximize concept development and student growth in mathematics. Students will be afforded class time for active questioning and for guided problem-solving.

Materials: Students will be required to bring to each class the textbook, pencils, paper, graph paper, a notebook (binder with loose-leaf paper is preferred), and a scientific calculator. A graphing calculator such as the TI-82 or TI 83+ will be required in geometry and higher-level math courses and may be used as a preferred alternative to a simple scientific calculator. Other graphing calculators are permitted with the understanding that the student must be familiar with the operation and modes of that calculator. Calculators capable of performing symbolic manipulations, e.g., TI 89, are not permitted. Some calculators have games installed. Students who play games on their calculators during class time will have them confiscated and turned over to the Math Department Chair who will return the calculator after a conference with the student and/or his/her parent.

Assignments: Students will be provided a planner showing which lessons will be covered each day, the schedule for tests, and the lessons through which each test covers. In general, two lessons will be covered each day. In addition to the planner, homework assignments will be posted on the blackboard and will consist of 30 problems ordinarily from the second lesson listed on the planner. All assignments are due as scheduled. **Each problem in each assignment must be fully completed with all the steps clearly shown.** Students are encouraged to work together and to seek help from the teacher as required, but the *recorded solution to the problem must be their own work*. Unannounced quizzes will be administered on a routine basis.

Evaluation: Each test consists of 20 questions that are like homework problems. Thursday is generally "Test Day". There will be about 7 tests per half term. An Algebra 2 planner will be given to each student indicating the test days and the lessons through which the test material will cover. Homework and quizzes account for 30% of the student's weekly grade (15% each) with tests accounting for the remaining 70% of the weekly grade. Weekly grades are cumulative and will account for 80% of each half term grade with the mid-term/final exam counting for 20% of the half-term grades. The average of both half-term grades will determine the final course grade.

Make-up Work: The Parent/Student handbook gives general guidelines for making up missing work. **The primary responsibility for making up missed work rests with the student.** The following specific procedures in my class should be noted:

- **For absences of fewer than three academic days** - All homework due during the period of absence will be graded by the student and submitted upon return to class. Missed tests and quizzes will generally be made up **after school within 2 days** of return to class.
- **For longer, unplanned absences** – Students will submit a written proposal with a timetable for the makeup of missed work. The proposal/timetable will be reviewed and approved or amended by me, and must then be executed by the student. Failure to meet the timetable will result in a grade of zero being assigned for that particular piece of homework, quiz, or test.
- **For extended planned absences** – Students are responsible for determining, completing, and submitting all assignments due during the absence **prior to their departure unless other arrangements have been made with me.**

Honors Algebra 2: All students interested in being classified honors in an integrated honors course will notify each teacher during the first week of class. Prospective Honors students must have an 89 B average in all assessment areas by the completion of the first progress report to be enrolled as an Honors Algebra 2 student for the term. If the student does not meet this milestone, then the student will no longer be considered as an Honors Algebra 2 student. The grades will not be recalculated if a student is dropped as an Honors student. Honors work consists of additional "Honors" homework problems and additional "Honors" questions (based on the Honors homework) on tests.

PCHS Honor Code: The PCHS Honor Code is based on the premise that PCHS students will not cheat, lie, or steal, or tolerate those who do. During the Algebra 2 course, the following expectations will apply:

- **Tests and Quizzes:** All work must be performed individually using only the resources specifically authorized by the teacher. In this regard, use of a calculator is authorized unless specifically prohibited by the teacher or by test/quiz instructions. Mathematical programs are not permitted and will not be placed on the calculator.
- **Homework assignments:** As stated above, students are encouraged to complete homework assignments cooperatively with other students, teachers, parents, mentors, and tutors as a means to enhance the learning and mastery of the process. **On the other hand, the mere copying of another's work for submission and grading is prohibited by the Honor Code.** Student use of any published or Internet material beyond the issued textbook must receive prior approval by the classroom teacher.