

Course Syllabus

Algebra 1

Fall 2019-Spring 2020

Welcome to the beginning of a new school year and to Algebra 1. As we prepare for a productive year of learning and achievement, I would like to provide some important information about the goals and expectations for this class, which will help each student be successful.

Teacher Information

Mr. Valenti

kevin.valenti@qacps.org

Room 218 (Annex) Room 209 (KIHS)

Google Classroom code:

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Course Description

(1 credit) Algebra I focuses on the mastery of five critical areas: (1) developing an understanding of relationships between quantities and reasoning with equations; (2) developing understanding and applying linear and exponential relationships; (3) investigating trends and modeling with descriptive statistics; (4) performing arithmetic operations on polynomial expressions, solving equations, inequalities, and systems of equations; and (5) using properties of rational and irrational numbers to develop an understanding of quadratic functions. It is recommended that each student have a graphing calculator.

Course Outcomes

In addition to studying the topics mentioned above, students will be expected to demonstrate mathematical habits related to the following eight mathematical practices:

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
4. Model with mathematics.
5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
6. Attend to precision.
7. Look for and make use of structure.
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning

<http://www.corestandards.org/Math/Practice/>

Course Content:

Topic 1 – Constructing Graphs (5 blocks/6 days)
Topic 2 – Multiple Representations in Real World (6 blocks/9 days)
Topic 3 – Functions (9 blocks/30 days)
Topic 4 – Exploring Rate of Change in Motion Problems (6 blocks/6 days)
Topic 5 – Exploring Rate of Change in Other Situations (7 blocks/9 days)
Topic 6 – Moving Beyond Slope Intercept Form (7 blocks/9 days)
Topic 7 – Creating Linear Models for Data (8 blocks/10 days)
Topic 8 – Descriptive Statistics (6 blocks)
Topic 9 – Solving Linear Equations and Inequalities (7 blocks/5 days)

Topic 10 - Absolute value equations and piecewise functions (8 blocks/10 days)
Topic 11 – Systems of Linear Equations and Inequalities (6 blocks/6 days)
MIDTERM
Topic 12 – Other Methods for Solve Systems (7 blocks/5 days)
Topic 13 – Other Non-Linear Relationships (11 blocks/5 days)
Topic 14 – Laws of Exponents (6 blocks/3 days)
Topic 15 – Exponential Functions and Equations (7 blocks/10 days)
Topic 16 – Graphs of Quadratic Functions (8 blocks/10 days)
Topic 17 – Operations on Polynomials (6 blocks/ 16 days)
Topic 18 – Modeling with Quadratic Functions (5 blocks/8 days)
Topic 19 – Solving Quadratic Equations (8 blocks/10 days)
Topic 20 – The Quadratic Formula (5 blocks/7 days)

Materials

Pens (blue/black ink) and pencils

1-2" 3-ring binder (dividers recommended)

1 spiral notebook

Laptop (charged)

Graphing calculator

Graph and college ruled loose leaf paper

Dry Erase Markers

Highlighter

Grading Policy

Marking Period grades will consist of:

- Final Exam - 15% of final grade
- Mastery Assessments - 45% of final grade
 - Large projects
 - Unit tests
 - Midterm
- Progress Assessments - 40% of final grade
 - Classwork (warm-ups, partner/group work, exit tickets, etc.)
 - Homework
 - Quizzes
 - Small projects

Grading Scale

A	90-100	Excellent
B	80-89	Above Average
C	70-79	Average
D	60-69	Unsatisfactory
F	59 & below	Failing

Late Work/Make-up Work

1. Late assignments are those that are submitted late not due to an absence. Late work will be accepted with the following restrictions:
 - Work must be turned in within 3 days of the due date. Every day late the grade reduces by 10%, not to exceed a maximum reduction of 30%.

1. If a student is absent, he/she has as many days to complete make-up work as they were absent. It is the student's responsibility to obtain missed assignments/notes.
2. If a student will be absent for 3 or more consecutive days, parents/guardians are encouraged to communicate with the teacher about work that can be completed at home. Such work may be available online or arranged to be picked up at the front office.

Classroom Rules and Expectations

Students are expected to abide by the school rules. Disciplinary action will result if a school rule is broken. Disciplinary action might include, but is not limited to, teacher student conference, home contact, detention, or office referral.

1. Respect the space, property, and ideas of others
2. Use appropriate and positive language
3. Be in class on time with all necessary materials
4. Maintain a positive attitude about learning
5. Demonstrate cooperative and appropriate behavior

Availability

I will be available after school by appointment only. If you need extra help, *please ask!* If staying after school, students must arrange transportation and bring class materials/notes.

**** NOTE to Parent/Guardian ****

Parent Portal is the QACPS website that allows you to see your student's current grades by going to the internet. If you are not already signed up, please call the guidance office (410-604-2070) for information.

Please detach and return the lower portion of this page.

Parent/Guardian Information (fill out only what you are comfortable with)

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Preferred form of communication (circle one):

Email Cell phone Work Phone Home Phone

Any other comments or information you would like me to know:

I have read and understand the information given in the attached syllabus for Algebra 1.

Student Name (printed): _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Name (printed): _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____