



West Potomac High School Algebra 1 Syllabus

2015-2016

<i>Instructors</i>		<i>Email</i>		<i>Instructors</i>		<i>Email</i>	
Ms. Kris Benton	ksbenton@fcps.edu	Mr. Jeff Levy	jklevy@fcps.edu				
Mr. Jeff Brooks	jbrooks@fcps.edu	Ms. Maura Neumeister	mmneumeister@fcps.edu				
Ms. Britney Corbett	bmcorbett@fcps.edu	Ms. Tara Perez	teperez@fcps.edu				
Ms. Linda Graziani	lgraziani@fcps.edu	Ms. Lane Root	leroot@fcps.edu				
Mr. Minh Huynh	mahuynh@fcps.edu	Ms. Kailey Sevel	kisevel@fcps.edu				
Mr. Paul Laguna	pclaguna@fcps.edu	Ms. Techitia Sharp	tmsharp@fcps.edu				
Ms. Cheryl Larsen	colarsen@fcps.edu	Ms. Kaitlin Tuohey	ketuohy@fcps.edu				

Course Overview

This course extends students' knowledge and understanding of the real number system and its properties through the study of variables, expressions, equations, inequalities, and analysis of data derived from real world phenomena. Emphasis is placed on making connections in algebra to arithmetic, geometry, and statistics. Calculator/computer technologies and manipulatives should be used as tools wherever appropriate. Use of a graphing calculator is considered essential to provide a graphical and numerical approach to topics in addition to a symbolic approach.

Course Outline

There are 11 units of study in the course that emphasize content, thinking and writing skills in equal measure. There is a period of review and preparation for the SOL test and end-of-year activities. Students receive a calendar for each unit. Electronic copies of all course and class handouts as well as assignments are posted on the course Blackboard site. The time frames outlined here are subject to change as circumstances (for example, snow days) warrant.

Unit 1: Expressions and Operations	Unit 7: Systems of Equations and Inequalities
Unit 2: Equations	Unit 8: Exponents and Radicals
Unit 3: Functions	Unit 9: Polynomials
Unit 4: Rate of Change/Variation	Unit 10: Quadratics
Unit 5: Forms of Linear Equations	Unit 11: Statistics & Data Analysis
Unit 6: Inequalities	SOL Review

Course Readings

Each student will have access to *Algebra 1, Virginia Student Edition* of Prentice Hall textbook. Hard copy textbooks or online access are available upon request from student. The cost to replace a lost and/or damaged book (if applicable) is \$78.

Supplies

Students are requested to have the following items in class on a daily basis.

- Pencils
- Paper
- Organizational System
- Graphing Calculator (will be available during class, suggested to have one for home use)

If you have any concerns about acquiring these supplies, please speak to the course instructor so that arrangements can be made to support your learning in the course.

Assessment & Grading

The focus of assessment is to provide feedback on the students' learning process and to measure students' level of performance. Information generated through assessments is used by the teacher and students to reflect and then make adjustments in the learning process that increase student learning over time.

- **Final Course Grade:** Final course grades will be an average of the four quarter grades and the final exam. Each quarter grade will count as 22% and the final exam will count 12% of the final grade. The final exam grade will be determined by a cumulative exam given during the scheduled exam period in June. Quarter grades will be determined by the following weights and categories:
 - Summative Assessments: 65%
 - Diagnostic Assessments and Quizzes: 25%
 - In and Out of Class Assignments: 10%

- **Late and Make Up Work:** We acknowledge that students will sometimes need flexibility to meet deadlines as a result of unforeseen emergencies. Therefore, assignments are accepted without penalty after assigned due dates following these guidelines:
 - One day of absence affords one class period of make-up opportunity.
 - If you are absent ONLY on the day of a test or quiz, be prepared to take the test or quiz on the day of your return to school.
 - If you are absent only on the day BEFORE an announced test or quiz, you should be prepared to take it as scheduled.
 - It is the STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY to make up all missed work. Make arrangements with your teacher to make up work and/or tests/quizzes.

- **Intervention:** For students seeking extra help or remediation, teachers will be available to meet with students various times outside of class. This is mandatory if a student earns less than a C at an interim or quarter or needs to complete test corrections.
 - **After School Office Hours:** Various Algebra 1 teachers will be available to work with students or provide them with time to make up assessments. Check with your teachers for their specific availability. WPHS provides late buses on Mondays and Thursdays.
 - **Wolverine Time:** *Daily, before 3rd period.* Students can meet with their Algebra 1 teacher for support or enrichment after scheduling and receiving a pass to report to their math classroom.
 - **Peer Tutoring:** *By appointment.* The National Honor Society offers tutoring services for fellow students. Inquire with your teacher for additional information.

- **Second Chance Assessments:**

Due to the importance of sustained learning, a separate document thoroughly explaining the procedures for student eligibility to retake particular summative assessments will be handed out and discussed in class.

- **SOL End of Course Exam**

All students enrolled in Algebra 1 will take the SOL exam. You can expect the exam to be scheduled in the last weeks of May or early June. Students need to pass the SOL to receive verified credit for the course. Please forward all questions regarding graduation requirements to your student's counselor.

Communication

If you wish to view your student's grades throughout the year, please log in to Parent View. Teachers will update grades periodically throughout the quarters. Questions regarding the course or the student's progress submitted via email will be returned within 2 school days of receipt.

Honor Code/Academic Integrity

There will be absolutely no tolerance for cheating in any form. Cheating is giving or receiving unauthorized aid on any assignment. Students will still be expected to complete the assigned work, or its equivalent, to demonstrate mastery of the skill or knowledge the original assignment is intended to measure. Should an instance of suspected cheating occur, teachers will follow the procedure indicated in the West Potomac High School Honor Code.



West Potomac High School

Algebra 1 Syllabus: Student Signature & Information Sheet

2015-2016

I have read and understand the expectations and procedures described in the Algebra 1 syllabus. Throughout the year I agree to follow and support them.

Name (printed): _____

Signature: _____

Student's e-mail address: _____

STUDENT: Please respond to the following questions.

The last math class you have completed and with which teacher:

Describe your experience in math class last year:

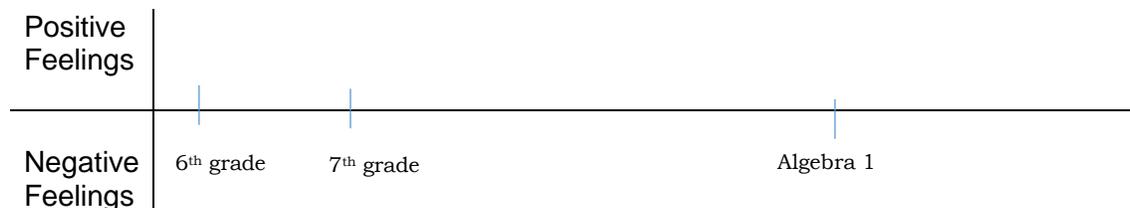
What helps you learn well in math? (ex: sitting in the front, reminders to do homework, etc)

Do you have or participate in any extracurricular activities or jobs? If so, what are they?

What type of learner would you consider yourself? (ex: visual, active, audio, etc)

What is something unique about yourself?

Timeline: Describe your feelings about math across time by drawing a line graph.





West Potomac High School

Algebra 1 Syllabus: Parent/Guardian Signature & Information Sheet

2015-2016

I have read the expectations and classroom procedures in the Algebra 1 syllabus. Throughout the year I agree to support them.

Name (printed): _____

Relationship to student: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please provide the following information:

Parent/guardian's e-mail address: _____

Best phone number you can be reached at: _____

Please respond to the following questions.

Describe your son/daughter's personality and learning style.

Is there any additional information that you feel the instructor should know about your student in this course?