

Algebra 1 Syllabus

Dr. Wilson

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Classroom: 1116

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Welcome to Algebra I! I look forward to getting to know each and all of you as we learn a bit more about math and some of the things we can do with it.

Course Description:

Algebra I completes the teaching of multiplication, division, subtraction, and addition of decimals, fractions, and integers, and the simplification and solution of equations and story problems. Percentages, fractions, decimals and their inter-conversion and use in everyday problems are especially stressed. Other topics include: area and perimeter, rate problems, unit conversions, simple substitution, work with variables, graphing, and solving equations. Students will also be taught the different algebraic properties to simplify single variable equations, and do extensive work with linear equations, factoring, and quadratic equation.

Goals

The key goals of this course are engendering a sense of how numbers work and building a solid foundation of algebra principles. To achieve these goals, we will explore many different aspects of numbers, math, and algebra through in-class activities and targeted homework assignments.

Office Hours:

I am generally available during flex or after school for anyone who needs extra help (dropping by unannounced is okay, but I recommend pre-coordinating your visit to make sure I'll be there).

Textbook, Workbook, and Online Resources:

Burger, Dixon, et al. *Into Algebra 1*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing, 2020.

In addition to the textbook, you will be given a workbook that will be used throughout the year. If desired, the textbook can be accessed online through the hmhco.com website.

Grading Percentages:

Homework: 15%

Quizzes: 25%

Tests: 45%

Final Exam: 15%

Homework:

You should expect homework assignments about 4 nights each week. These will be a combination of worksheets, problem sets from the textbook, and problem sets from the workbook.

Quizzes: Students should expect two to three quizzes a week. Many of these quizzes will be of relatively low value (3-5 points) and will cover material from recent lessons in class. Larger quizzes will occur at one- to two- week intervals and will generally be broken into two sections with the following weights.

- Material from recent lessons (since the last quiz): 70-80%
- Material from any and all previous lessons: 20-30%

Tests:

Approximately four or five tests will be given each semester. As with the larger quizzes, these tests will generally be divided into the following sections:

- Material from recent lessons (since the last test): 70-80%
- Material from any and all previous lessons: 20-30%

Final Exam:

The final exam for each semester will cover all material from the entire semester. Because of the nature of mathematics, it is likely that some material learned in the first semester will be tested on the second semester's final exam as well.

Final Comments:

- o **Do the homework.** Homework problems will generally be assigned after the associated concepts have been covered in class. Attempt the homework assigned to each lesson.
- o **Learn the concepts.** Don't just memorize rule and procedures! Learn the concepts first, and then see how the concepts are represented in the math.
- o **Participate in class.** Be attentive and take notes. Ask questions and participate in class discussions.

I hope you enjoy taking this course as much as I enjoy teaching it. I'm looking forward to a fun year.