

Algebra II Pre-AP Syllabus

Mrs. Chong

Room 301
Conference – 5th Period

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(512) 732-9280 ext. 34107
Tutoring – every morning, 8:10 – 8:40

Textbook: *Algebra 2* by Carter, Cuevas, Day & Malloy (McGraw Hill Education)

Textbook Website: connected.mcgraw-hill.com

McGraw Hill maintains a website that includes extra examples, interactive quizzes and video tutorials that are written for every section of the textbook. Student login information will be shared in class.

Materials:

- 3-ring binder with lined paper and graph paper
- **charged** iPad
- graphing calculator – TI 83+ or TI 84+ are allowed on SAT, SAT II and AP Math exams;
 - The calculator's memory will be cleared for all assessments.

Grading Policy: Your **quarterly grade** will be calculated with the following weights:

- **Daily Grades – 10%** - at least one daily grade will be earned each week
 - Learning checks – short quizzes for understanding; these may come directly from homework
 - Homework – unannounced homework checks
- **Learning Checks – 90%**
 - There will be approximately 15 learning targets assessed each quarter. Each learning target will have its own grade in the grade book.
 - There will usually be one learning check every week. Each learning check will typically include 5 learning targets. Instead of earning one grade for the whole learning check, students earn a grade for each learning target.
 - Each learning target will be assessed the week it is taught. It will be assessed again at least one more time a week or two later.
 - If the last grade for a learning target is the highest grade for that learning target, then that will be the learning check grade for the learning target (replacing any lower grades in the grade book).
 - If the last grade is not the highest grade for that learning target, then the most recent grade will be averaged with the existing grade for that learning target.

Your **semester average** is the average of the two quarterly grades (40% each) and the final exam (20%).

Homework

Completing homework is the most critical part of the learning process and it will be checked periodically. The effort that you put into your homework has the greatest bearing on how well you learn and retain mathematical knowledge. All problems should be attempted with work shown and you must check to see if your answers are correct.

Make-up Policy

- When you are absent it is your responsibility to **look at the online calendar for the day**, to turn in missed work, and to make arrangements to make up any tests or quizzes missed. Be sure to check the online calendar before talking to me about make-up work.
- If you are absent for a school-related function you will be expected to participate in the next days' class as though you had been present – be sure to get your assignments **before** the missed day(s).
- Being absent the day before a test does not *automatically* excuse you from taking the learning check. If no new material was presented, you should expect to take the test as scheduled.
- If you miss class for any reason (excused or unexcused), remember that tutorial videos are available on the McGraw Hill website. Please use this resource to help prepare yourself for your return to school.

UIL Eligibility

It is the **student's responsibility** to be aware of his/her grades and how those grades will affect their eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities. Refer to the Student Handbook for more information on eligibility rules.

Classroom Rules

- Be on time! School tardy policies will be enforced.
- Listen attentively, take notes, and ask questions – *ENGAGE YOUR BRAIN!*
- Be courteous to all others in the class – listen patiently, offer encouragement, etc.
- **Make mathematical thinking your top priority for 50 minutes!**
 - **Work only on math** for the duration of the class.
 - Unless you are using them as part of a classroom activity, cell phones and iPads are to stay packed up during class.
 - Take care of your personal business before school, during passing periods, during lunch or after school.
- Follow the Westlake Honor Code. School policy will be enforced.

Course Description Topics studied in Algebra II PreAP include:

- Solving linear and absolute value equations and inequalities
- Graphing linear equations and functions
- Solving systems of equations and inequalities using algebraic and matrix methods
- Graphing quadratic functions; solving quadratic equations and inequalities
- Graphing polynomial functions; solving polynomial equations
- Writing inverse functions; graphing and solving radical equations and inequalities
- Graphing exponential and logarithmic functions; solving exponential and logarithmic equations
- Graphing rational functions; solving rational equations
- Investigating arithmetic and geometric sequences and series

“Reserve your right to think, for even to think wrongly is better than not to think at all.”

Theon of Alexandria to his daughter Hypatia (ca. 400 A.D.)

“It is not enough to have a good mind. The main thing is to use it well.”

Descartes, *Discours de la Méthode*, 1637