

Course Syllabus: Algebra I  
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**Prerequisite:** Teacher placement using grades and CST scores

**Required Text:** California Algebra I, Prentice Hall

**Course Description:** This course meets the UC/CSU “C” admission requirement as well as the MVUSD graduation requirement for math credit. In Algebra I students learn the fundamentals of algebra, solving problems by methods that were not previously available to them at the arithmetic level. Algebra is essential for students who plan to study copy from mathematics, science or physics. For other students, it is a challenging subject that will develop their minds and their ability to analyze and solve problems. Specific topics to be covered in depth are listed in the MMHS Math department’s approved timeline below.

Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Ch 1 Tools of Algebra	Ch 8 Polynomials and Factoring
Ch 2 Solving Equations	Ch 9 Quadratic Equations and Functions
Ch 3 Solving Inequalities	Ch 10 Radical Expressions and Equations
Ch 4 Graphs and Functions	Ch 11 Rational Expressions and Equations
Ch 5 Linear Equations and Their Graphs	CST Preparation and Testing
Ch 6 Systems of Equations and Inequalities	Additional Topics to Be Determined
Ch 7 Exponents	

**Course Content Standards:** The Algebra I state standards can be found at the following CA Dept of Education web address <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sr/documents/rtqalg1.pdf> You can also view these standards on our school website by going to the school website and then clicking on Departments, Mathematics, and then Math Links.

**Grading:**

<i>Assignments, Warm-ups, Participation, Projects</i>	<b>25%</b>
<i>Quizzes</i>	<b>15%</b>
<i>Tests</i>	<b>50%</b>
<i>Final</i>	<b>10%</b>

Notebook binders should be organized with a 1-subject spiral notebook, college-ruled paper, graph paper, and paper pocket folder. Notes in *Cornell Style* are a simple way to record what you have learned in class and will help with your assignments and preparation for the test. Students will check their answers to daily assignments (classwork/homework) using the provided solutions. The assignments will later be collected and graded based on effort and completion. Students keep notebook, assignments, and quizzes in their notebook binder until submitted as a packet in paper pocket folder on the day of the test. If a student is absent on the day of the test when the work is collected, it is expected that the student turn in the work to the teacher on the day when he/she returns to class. Each assignment will receive points as follows:

5 pts	=	On-Time, Complete (with work shown), Corrected
3 pts	=	On-Time, 60% Complete or Weak/No Corrections
2 pts	=	50% Complete or No Corrections
0 pt	=	Less than 50% Complete.

Periodically, grades will be posted on the board by student ID numbers (to protect right to privacy) and on the internet as well. The standard grading scale will be used:

100-90%:	A
89-80%:	B
79-70%:	C
69-60%:	D
59–0%:	F

**Hall Passes:** Students must have their ID card, teacher's permission and a hall pass if out of class during assigned class time. Students being requested by the office will be sent an office call slip. Students are not to be released without a pass. Please use the restroom during breaks and/or during passing time to avoid missing class time.

**Recommended Supplies/Format Requirements:** pencil, eraser, lined paper, graph paper, ruler, binder, college-ruled spiral notebook or composition book, scientific calculator (can usually be purchased for around \$10 on sale.) Please keep all of your work (assignments, warm-ups, quizzes, etc) organized in a 3-ring binder and bring it to class every day. Also, make sure you include your first name, last name, class name, period #, and date on all assignments. All students will also need a college-ruled spiral notebook or composition book for taking notes. In doing so, daily lecture notes will remain organized and sequential for your benefit. Your binders and notebooks are subject to inspection and should be quality work, organized and complete.

**Attendance:** If you are absent, it is **your responsibility** to find out what you have missed by checking my website or contacting me in person or by email. You can do so by way of **email** at [rroy@murrieta.k12.ca.us](mailto:rroy@murrieta.k12.ca.us) or by **voicemail** at **677-0568 ext. 6304**. On the day of your return, please see me before school or before class to get caught up (even if that period does not meet that day). Remember that missing just one block day can put you far behind. Please note that **ONLY WORK MISSED DURING EXCUSED ABSENCES CAN BE MADE UP**.

**Promptness:** Students are expected to be in their seats at the bell ready to work each day. Tardy students must have a pass, and will be expected to follow Mesa's tardy policy as outlined in the student handbook. School wide policy states that students with an unexcused tardy will receive an after school detention to be served within three days of the tardy.

**Citizenship/Classroom Philosophy/Expectations:** All students and staff demonstrate RAM PRIDE. Every student deserves the right to an education free of interference and therefore any actions or behavior causing disruption to that education will not be tolerated. Our class time is very valuable and will not be wasted on behavioral problems. With this in mind, every student while in our classroom must adhere to the expectations and policies below. All Rams will...

- |                       |                      |                                |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| -Be Prepared          | -Be Responsible      | -Be a Leader and a Team Player |
| -Show Respect         | -Communicate Clearly | -Stay Organized                |
| -Produce Quality Work |                      |                                |

**Specific Behavior Policies:**

1. Be in your seat with materials out and ready to work when the bell rings. See Promptness above.
2. Bring the required materials to class every day.
3. Follow all directions quickly.
4. Do not interrupt when someone else is speaking.
5. No food, drinks, candy or gum. Unspillable water bottle with water is the only exception.
6. The bell does not dismiss the class. Students will be dismissed by the teacher once the room is in order.
7. No cell phones or other electronic devices. They will be confiscated per MMHS school policy. Refer to your student handbook. **KEEP THEM OFF....and not in silent or vibrate mode.**

Your success in the classroom is dependent on your success with the material as well as with your compliance to classroom expectations and policies. Please know them well and speak with me about them if there is a need for clarification. **Any infractions of the preceding expectations and policies will be dealt with at the teacher's discretion.**

**Communication:**

Parents with email accounts...please send me a brief (or even blank) email this week so I can easily add you to my contact list. To make this work smoothly, please follow the format below:

**To:** [rroy@murrieta.k12.ca.us](mailto:rroy@murrieta.k12.ca.us)  
**Subject:** ***period #, Algebra I, student's full name***

From there just click send. Thanks so much for your help on this part. Email will be our most efficient means of communication and I look forward to hearing from you. Thank you in advance.

