

MATHEMATICS

ALGEBRA 1 Classroom Expectations

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a full year college prep class. This course is designed to provide a comprehensive study of algebraic concepts. This course will prepare you for success in the California Standards Test and the High School Exit Exam. You will study properties of real numbers, linear equations and inequalities, linear graphing, algebraic expressions, systems of linear equations, polynomials, exponents, and factoring, rational equations and functions, radicals, quadratic equations, and word problems. This course will explore real world problems, develop strategies for problem solving, integrate topics and other disciplines, develop concepts through the use of various methodologies, provide opportunity to communicate mathematically, and provide on-going review and self-evaluation.

II. CLASS EXPECTATIONS

Since you are in this class, you have successfully completed the necessary math work in middle school. Since the California State Department of Education has created higher expectations with their Content Standards, the district and the high school has committed to following those standards and has also raised its standards and expectations. You are **expected** to use the knowledge that you have acquired in those previous math classes and continue to ascend the ladder of mathematics successfully. Therefore, your expectations of me, yourself, your classmates, and this class should be very high. You have to take this course to prepare you for math in the future so I expect you to take the initiative to be active learners in the class. Each day you walk into this room, you should be ready to learn, teach, and discuss math at a high level. I will accept nothing less than **100%** effort each day. This course requires you to spend more time than in the past on your math work both inside and outside of class. You should be ready to work individually, in a group, and as a class. I expect you to use your past mathematical experiences and your desire to learn and succeed to explore and learn new mathematical concepts **intrinsically. You and you only are responsible for your grade in this class. You must reach a score of 350 on the CST to continue to advanced math.**

III. CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

1. There will always be a warm-up assignment for you to begin the math class. It will take between 1 to 10 minutes to complete, depending on the assignment. The teacher will release you from class, not the bell. Once you enter the room, be prepared to work from bell to bell.
2. PLEASE DO NOT BRING FOOD, DRINKS, GUM, CANDY, ETC., INTO THE CLASSROOM AT ANY TIME WITHOUT PERMISSION. YOU WILL NEVER BE ALLOWED TO CHEW GUM IN THE CLASSROOM.
3. My name is Mr. Nelson. You can answer me with a yes sir; no sir; coach or Mr. Nelson, nothing else!! I will always strive to treat you with the utmost respect and I will demand it from you. Furthermore, you will treat your fellow classmates, guests, substitutes, and the room with respect. When someone in the class is talking, show them respect by listening attentively, not talking with someone else, and not doing something else. The most important person to listen to is someone who may be asking a question, answering a question, or discussing anything in math or something school-related. Please do not ask for someone to repeat something due to the lack of your respect or attentiveness. **SHOW CLASS!**
4. You will be responsible to maintain the cleanliness of the room and any classroom property at all times. If you see someone writing or something written on your desk,

please let me know, otherwise you are responsible for the cleaning of that desk. The class will not be released until the cleanliness of the room is acceptable to the teacher and the students.

5. You will never be excused to go to any other class during our class time. Our class time is very valuable to achieve our goals and objectives. Should you need to use the restroom urgently, a pass will be provided after the first hour of class and/or you are finished with your work---at my discretion.
6. **CELL PHONES, IPODS, IPHONES, ETC, ETC, ETC, ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BE ON NOR USED DURING CLASS. IF THEY ARE, IT WILL BE CONFISCATED AND GIVEN TO SECURITY FOR RETRIEVAL PER SCHOOL POLICY! THIS IS YOUR FIRST WARNING AND NOW YOUR LAST WARNING.**

IV. ATTENDANCE

Being successful starts with attending class everyday. Missing quizzes, tests, and/or new material because of absence usually result in lower grades. You need to be responsible for attending class and being prepared to learn. If you are absent, you must clear the absence prior to accepting or delivering missed work and assignments. **You** are responsible to determine what you missed and responsible to make up that missed work. **You** are expected to know the material that we discussed as a class. I will not accept any work from that absence if your absence is not cleared (you will also lose all points on those assignments). If you know you will be absent in advance, you must let me know so you can get the work and any other material. The work will be **due the day you return** or it will not be accepted. . **If you are absent for a quiz, chapter test, or anything that is due, the only way to make it up and will be graded is if your parents contact me the day prior to or the morning of the day of the absence and explain your absence and *their understanding* that you are missing a test or work due in which the make-up is decidedly more difficult.**

V. TARDY POLICY

All students must be seated in their assigned seats prior to the sound of the tardy bell. Any student not in assigned seat may be asked to stay after class and be required to do additional work whether in math, or the assistance in cleaning the room. You will not be given any additional time to complete any work missed during the time you missed in class due to your tardiness. Please do not disrupt the class or tell me excuses about your tardiness. If you have a pass, just place the pass on my table up front. As per VMHS policy, tardies will be recorded and consequences will follow.

VI. GRADING POLICY

Percentages will be based on a running total of all points through the semester. Students are responsible to keep track of their own grades in their notebook. All students must keep all work whether graded or not as to prove that the work was done. Also, if I fail to enter your grade in my gradebook by mistake, you must have proof that you did it. Grading scale is as follows:

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE TO CHECK ABI ON A REGULAR BASIS TO SEE YOUR PROGRESS IN THE CLASS!

<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
90 - 100%	A
80 - 89%	B
70 - 79%	C
60 - 69%	D
Below 60%	F

The topics that will be evaluated are the following (in percentage order):

1. **Tests and quizzes (75-85%)**
 - a) Unit Tests (100 points each)
 - b) Quizzes (5 -50 points each)
 - c) Possible Midterm
 - d) First & Second Semester Final
2. **Homework**
3. **Notebook**
 - a) Four Sections
 - 1) *Warm-up*
 - 2) *Target* (classwork)---**Cornell Style Notes**
 - 3) *Homework*
 - 4) *Quizzes and Tests*
4. **Projects/Activities**

The student is totally responsible for doing all of their work and accepting the consequences for not doing their work. There is no extra credit for missed work. All work must be turned in when due. I will not accept late work. All tests and quizzes not taken at the assigned time will result in the student receiving a zero.

VII. REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR PRECALCULUS EVERYDAY

1. Separate math notebook with lined and graph paper or separate section in binder.
2. Pencils and ruler

I will not supply to you any of the above-mentioned material at any time.

Note to Parents/Guardians

It is an honor to have your son/daughter in my Algebra 1 ninth grade class. This class will challenge them with a heavier workload and prepare them for more advanced math. Most of their homework will be from the textbook but there will be many times throughout the year I will ask your child to download and print some papers from my website (go to school website then teachers). Your child will have daily homework, benchmark quizzes, section quizzes, tests, finals, and other classroom and outside activities. They will be prepared to score a **350** on the California State Standards Test (CST), a district requirement to take more advanced math classes (Algebra 2, PreCalculus, etc.). I stress that they will need your support as well as mine to be successful both in the class and on the CST in May. Please feel free to call me at school at **894-5750 ext. 6661** or email me at hnelson@murrieta.k12.ca.us if there are any questions or concerns you may have. "Back to School Night" is on _____ at 6:00pm.. I look forward to meeting you.

Mr. H. Nelson
Algebra 1, Advanced Placement Statistics
Mathematics Department Chair
Varsity Football Coach

Please follow the information below in **bold**.

I have read, understand, and acknowledge all of the conditions of the Algebra 1 Classroom Expectations.

Please email me that you have read and confirmed the information. On the email, please write your child's name in the subject line. This is for credit for first homework assignment. Your child MUST Print the Algebra 1 Classroom Expectations and place inside his/her notebook!!

Also, you and your child will be asked to use your cell phones to get texts from me. Please ask your child how.