

Pre-Calculus

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Classroom/Office Hours:

I am at school by 7 am **every morning** and I stay until 5 pm most afternoons. You may use my room as a study area or seek help during that time.

Course Description:

Precalculus is a 2 semester course that blends college algebra and trigonometry topics to provide a strong basis for Calculus next year. Geometry and Algebra II must be completed as prerequisites for this course, and a strong letter grade is encouraged to be successful in this course. Common core standards will be our primary objective. This rigorous course requires cooperative learning and we will use graphing calculators extensively to demonstrate understanding of the material. This course was built for students who will proceed to calculus and need more advanced mathematics courses in college.

Textbook:

PRECALCULUS with LIMITS A Graphing Approach - Ron Larson

Supplies:

- Graphing calculator, such as TI84, or access to a graphing app, like DESMOS
- Large 3 ring binder - items will be turned in, so a spiral notebook is inappropriate
- Colored pencils
- Pencils (I prefer not to grade work in pen)
- Graph paper

Course Overview:

Semester 1 will focus on advanced algebraic concepts such as rational functions, transcendental functions, and logarithmic functions.. During Semester 2 students will focus on trigonometric equations, graphs, and formulas.

Grading System:

The department wide policy states 70% of your grade is determined by assessments. This category includes quizzes, exit passes, and tests. The other 30% will be determined by classwork, homework, and projects. I use the Forsyth High School grading system to determine letter grade.

Unit test may be retaken for a better grade with the following restrictions -

1. All corrections on 1st test are completed on the appropriate test correction form and checked by instructor prior to retest
2. Retest is given **after** school for maximum success
3. The 2nd test score replaces the grade in the gradebook
4. Retest must be taken before the next unit test occurs in class

Rules and Expectations:

- Be prepared - Have your supplies at your desk before bell rings
- Be respectful - Please leave "my stuff" alone
- Be persistent - ASK, ASK, ASK, - I can't help if I don't know you're confused
- Be polite - no fighting, trash talk, or profanity allowed in my classroom
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Perks:

- Be involved with class - you earn Killebucks!
- Volunteer to work at the board - you earn Killebucks!
- Raise your hand to answer - you earn Killebucks!
- Outperform on your next quiz or test - you earn Killebucks!

What do you do with these Killebucks? Hoard 10 of them - get a homework exemption. Use them to purchase pens, pencils, and erasers, lead for mechanical pencils, folders, and Friday's popcorn. They are your currency in my class - you have to **buy** hall passes, restroom passes, and locker passes. Passes will cost you 2 Killebucks.

Consequences:

- 1st warning - verbal reminder to stay focused
- 2nd warning - automatic loss of daily grade (could be homework or test!)
- 3rd warning - stay 2 minutes after the bell, removed to hallway
- 4th warning - office referral for afterschool detention (with me), phone conference with parent
- Extreme offense - immediate suspension from class & AEA, personal conference with parent

Tardiness & Entering/Leaving the room:

- Do not be tardy - please get your supplies and find your seat before the bell finishes ringing - you always have a warm-up activity posted on the board.
- If you hang around the door at the end of class I will ask you to stay 2 minutes **after** the bell.
- For emergencies, you are expected to use the back doors near our classroom and stay in the group. I will write an office referral if you decide otherwise.

Intercom & Interruptions to the class:

- Remain on task and working if we are interrupted - if we have guests, be pleasant but do not stop working.
- I am the person being called on the intercom, do not answer it or cause a scene while I take the message.

Homework and Makeup Work:

Students will be given a pacing guide at the beginning of each chapter. This guide will contain dates, pages covered, and homework assignments for the entire chapter in advance. Students will be expected to collect their assignments prior to absences. Assignments not found in the textbook are available in the homework crate in class inside the appropriate folder. At the beginning of every week, Ms. Killebrew will announce the required assignments for that week's eligibility - any items not turned in by following Monday at 8 am will be recorded as a zero. Assignments can be turned in until the chapter test - i.e. no late assignments. No work is accepted beyond the chapter test date. Any missed tests due to absences must be made up in reasonable amount of time - refer to the office hours for feasible times in make ups.