

Algebra 1B

2009-2010, Mr. Hays, Room 103

Welcome to Algebra 1B at Analy High School. This course covers the second half of Algebra 1 over one year. This course reviews and strengthens basic skills while moving into new territory. We review basic Algebra, then solving first degree equations, graphing linear equations, then solve systems of equations, work with polynomials, factor and solve quadratic equations, and explore rational equations. At the end you will have a solid understanding of the foundations of Algebra. Along the way you will get to apply math to real world problems and discover important mathematical concepts through investigations. Passing this class satisfies your State of California Algebra 1 requirement for graduation. Passing this class with a C or better allows you move on to Geometry next year, continuing on the college prep math sequence.

You are expected to be in your assigned seats and ready to work by the bell. You are responsible to bring your binder, paper, workbook, calculator, pen and pencil to class each day. A scientific calculator is required (a graphing calculator is great to have but you need a non-graphing scientific calculator for tests and quizzes). Graph paper will be required for some sections. Our textbook is "Algebra 1" (McDougal Littell.) I expect you to pay attention in class, do your work, and keep yourself organized. Please turn off and put away your music players and cell phones when you walk in the door.

Here is how I calculate your grade:

Assignments:	20%
Academic Preparedness:	10%
Concept Problems	5%
Tests and quizzes:	45%
Final exam:	20%

If your Assignments grade falls below 66% you can earn no higher than a D, per Analy Math Department policy. Further, I will lower your grade by one third of a grade if you have 5 or more tardies in a semester (for example, from an A to an A-.) An unexcused absence on a test or quiz day results in an F.

Assignments are to be done in pencil on white 8.5 x 11 binder paper. You must show your work when appropriate to receive credit. You must do your assignments in pencil and correct them in pen for full credit. Assignments are typically worth 10 points. I accept up to three late assignments per quarter for up to 7 points each, only if turned in before the section test. In class we will correct homework using pen. Assignments that do not show correction marks will receive a lower score.

When you miss a class, ask a classmate what the homework was. You may also check my web site for the latest course information: www.dogatemyhomework.com. You are responsible for finding out assignments you missed and keeping up with the material. The web site also allows you to view your current math progress report including any missing assignments. Your listing is password protected. I update grades usually once a week.

Academic Preparedness: This part of your grade is made up of notes you take in class and your arriving to class with what is needed to succeed (i.e. your binder, workbook, pen, pencil, and calculator.) I require that you use a three ring binder to organize your notes and work, and that you keep your old assignments. You may either take notes in a spiral or other notebook that you keep with you, or on binder paper that you keep in your binder. You decide what works best for you. I collect notes on test days and give you a score based on completeness and coverage.

Tests and Quizzes

The following are rules for taking quizzes, tests, or exams in this class:

1. Put books, binders, and notes away, off of your desk's writing surface.
2. Unless I specify an open-note test, you are not allowed to use notes of any kind.
3. Do not talk, help others, pass notes, look at others' tests, or copy others' answers.
4. Please do work quietly while taking the test. When you finish please bring your test up to me and then do a quiet activity until class is dismissed. (This is the one time I allow you to listen to your music players: when you are done with a test and others are still working.)

If you are caught cheating on a test or quiz, you will receive a zero and a referral to the administration. As stated above, an unexcused absence on a test or quiz day means you get a zero which you cannot make up.

Discipline Policy

- Follow school rules.
- Be respectful to everyone.
- Use appropriate language.
- Help maintain a productive learning environment.
- Cell phones must be turned off and out of sight.
- No music players, headphones, or electronic games are allowed.

Consequences:

- Warning (Cell phones and music players will be confiscated.)
- Modification of behavior (changed seating assignment, time-out, discussion with me).
- Lunchtime, break, or after school detention.
- Call home to parents; conference with student, or student and parents.
- Referral to administration.

Help: I am available during Tutorial period Tuesdays and Thursdays before school to help if you have questions or feel stuck on a particular topic. Come see me and I can help you then, or we can make an arrangement to meet at another time such as at lunch or after school. If you need extra help, take advantage of the Tutorial Center. It's an incredible resource, and can make the difference between floundering and excelling in school. Check out my web site for links to a variety of helpful math resources:
www.dogatemyhomework.com.

Online book access: You can access our textbook online by going to <http://www.classzone.com/>. Choose the California Algebra 1 2007 edition book. Here you can find an online version of your book, practice tests and quizzes, and tons of help of all kinds. Use 3318339-30 for the activation code the first time you log in to create an account for yourself.

Contact Info: I am in room 103. The best way to contact me is by email: whays.ahs@wscuhd.k12.ca.us. My class phone number is 707.824.2362. Please call before 7:30 or after school to not interrupt classes.