

**Times² Stem Academy
2017-2018 Academic Year
Precalculus (11th Grade)**

**Mr. Lay
Room: TBA**

Course Information

Goals: Students will gain mastery of topics that are fundamental to success in Calculus and other college level mathematics classes. The problem-solving skills students will develop this year are considered vital to advanced coursework in statistics, business, chemistry, physics, computer science, and other areas.

Materials: Work in Precalculus will proceed largely through notes and worksheets provided by the teacher during class. The following textbook will be assigned to students at the beginning of the school year.

Glencoe Precalculus. Bothall, WA: McGraw Hill Education, 2014.

It is required that each student obtain a scientific calculator or graphing calculator and bring it to class each day. Calculators will not be provided to students during class. Students will not be allowed to use a cell phone or similar device in place of a scientific calculator. A simple four-function calculator will not be sufficient.

Attendance and Behavior: Disciplinary infractions will be posted regularly to the website www.oncoursesystems.com. Students need to keep this in mind as they make the many decisions that constitute their day-to-day behavior in class.

Any student who misbehaves is liable to receive a demerit or a detention depending on the severity of his or her actions.

Examples of Misconduct: Talking, singing, shouting out of turn; use of a cellphone in the building during school or after school, use of an electronic music device, or electronic gaming device; eating food or chewing gum during class; getting up and walking about the room; throwing things at other students; horsing around with other students; leaving class without permission; use of a computer for unauthorized purposes (working on assignments for other classes, watching web video), fooling around with the instructor's desk or chair

Grading Policy: Student grades will be determined according to the following chart.

Grade Component	Weight
Participation	15%
Class Work	15%
Homework	25%
Tests/ Quizzes/ Projects	45%

Participation: One of the overarching goals of the class is to help students develop good study habits that will also apply to any mathematics or science related coursework students might encounter in college. To this end, the instructor will periodically give students grades for in class participation and preparedness in the following four categories.

- Completing Response Board Exercises (RB)
- Bringing a Textbook to Class (TB)
- Bringing a Calculator to Class (CL)

- Bringing a Notebook or Binder to Class (NB)

At various points during each class, students will be required to perform specific problems and respond in class using the response boards. Each student will begin a class with a check (√) for the day's work. If a student fails to respond promptly to any question or is found to putting in insufficient effort, his or her Response Board score will be reduced to a check-minus (√-). If a student again fails to respond or put in appropriate effort, he or she will receive a 0.

At the beginning of specific classes, students will be required to show the instructor their textbook properly covered. Students who do this will receive a check (√) and those who do not will receive a zero (0).

At the beginning of specific classes, students will be required to show the instructor a course appropriate calculator. Students who do this will receive a check (√) and those who do not will receive a zero (0).

At the end of specific classes, students will be required to show the instructor their notebook or binder. Each student's notebook or binder should contain that day's notes as well as show evidence of cumulative work over the course of a quarter. Students with properly maintained notes will receive a check (√) and those who do not will receive a zero (0).

A check is worth two points, a check-minus is worth one point, and a zero (obviously) is worth zero points. At the end of each grading period, the Participation grade will be determined by adding up the number of points earned and dividing this by the total possible number of points. Students who are absent for any class ARE responsible for making up all such work by completing additional assignments.

Homework: Specific policies regarding any homework that is assigned will be clearly explained. Homework assignments will be graded on a percentage basis given the number of points earned versus the total point value of the assignment.

Tests: Tests will be administered about once every two weeks.

A series of oral tests will also be scheduled.

The instructor will have all students take a midterm exam in mid-April.

Any student who achieves at least a 93 (A) average on the last day before final exam period will be exempt from the final exam.

The final cumulative average will be comprised of six parts. Each of the four quarter grades will be worth 22.5%. The midterm will be worth 5% and the final exam will be worth 5%. (Note: This may be subject to change.)

Project: Projects will be assigned at the discretion of the teacher. Such assignments will include short papers and PowerPoint presentations.

GeoGebra: In Precalculus, students will make use of GeoGebra, an award-winning mathematical visualization software program. GeoGebra will be installed on all the desktop and laptop computers in Room 318. Students may download the software free-of-charge for use at home from www.geogebra.org. Note that this program requires use of the Java runtime which can be obtained from www.java.com.

Additional Help: The instructor will usually make himself available at least three per week after school between 2:30 pm and 5:00 pm. Please let him know beforehand when you wish to come in for extra help.

----- Pleases! Return upon completion. Thanks -----

Student's Name (print) & Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Contact Name/Relationship to Student (Please Print): _____

Phone#: _____ E-mail: _____