

Precalculus Syllabus 2018-19

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Course Description

This course is designed to strengthen and build upon previously learned algebra skills to prepare students for Calculus. Students will study the graphs and algebraic characteristics of the ten (10) basic functions including polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic functions. Triangular and rotational trigonometry will be explored in greater depth. Vectors, parametric equations, polar equations, and limits will be introduced.

Class Materials

It is vital to the learning experience that students have their supplies each day. Each of the following should be taken to class each day:

- Pencil
- Notebook
- Paper
- Student planner
- Graphing Calculator (TI-84 strongly recommended)

A textbook will be loaned to each student for the school year.

Homework assignments will be accepted only when written in pencil. Graphing calculators are available starting at about \$100 at various retailers. They can also be rented from Olathe South for \$20/year.

Remind Notifications

To sign up for class notifications, send a text to 81010 with the message “@hailpc” to receive pertinent info. If email notifications are preferred, go to rmd.at/hailpc. Students and parents are welcome to sign up for this service.

Grading Policies

Semester grades are comprised of the following three categories and their corresponding weights:

Homework (5%): Homework will be assigned most class periods and will be due the following class meeting unless notified otherwise. Homework will be completed in pencil, showing all work, and turned in on time. Homework is graded strictly on completion, not on correct answers. Homework turned in more than 1 day late will be given reduced credit.

In class activities (5%): Periodically we will do assignments or projects in the classroom that don't fit into any of the other grading categories.

Quizzes (30%): Quizzes will be given frequently. The format for these will vary, but they will always be a check for understanding of the topic covered in class.

Exams (60%): Exams will be given at the conclusion of each unit of study. These will be an opportunity for students to demonstrate the skills they have learned and are the truest test of what a student has learned. For that reason, they are the most heavily weighted part of the student's grade.

Test retakes will be offered for up to one test per semester. In order to be eligible for a retake, the student must complete an extra review activity (determined by instructor) and complete the new test within two weeks of the original. The 2nd test score will replace the score from the 1st regardless of results. Some tests are not available to retake due to calendar limitations.

Deadlines for make-up work: All homework assignments and quizzes must be completed before the exam for that unit. Any assignments not turned in by test day will be recorded as zeroes.

Extra Assistance Opportunities

At Olathe South, we want students to have every opportunity possible for success. For this reason, there are many times for students to come in for extra assistance including. Each day instructors are available during the Falcon 50 lunch period and are also available during seminar on even block days and before and after school most days.

The Falcon 50 lunch period and seminar are the best times for students to seek assistance. It is recommended that students check with their instructor before coming in before or after school to ensure availability. Students should not hesitate to ask for extra help if they are having difficulty.