

HONORS PRECALCULUS COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Precalculus reviews some of the material studied in Algebra 2-Trigonometry. The review areas of study include: real and complex numbers and functions (polynomial, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric). The study of these topics is expanded, however, and the treatment is more formal. Additional areas of study are conics, notions of limits, continuity, circular functions, mathematics of finance, parametric equations, and polar coordinates. It is recommended for students who are preparing to enter a technical or semi-technical profession, or planning to study Calculus.

This honors course provides a more in-depth study of the topics covered in Pre-Calculus with greater emphasis of both theory and applications. Additional topics include curve fitting and physics applications. A graphing calculator with matrix capabilities is required in this course.

Prerequisite: Algebra 2-Trigonometry - H and departmental approval. Next course in sequence: Upon satisfactory completion of Pre-Calculus - H, the students is prepared for a serious course in Calculus. Open to grades 9, 10, 11 & 12.

REQUIRED MATERIALS (to be brought to class daily)

- Textbook (*Precalculus: Graphical, Numerical, Algebraic* by Demana, Waits, Foley, Kennedy)
- Notebook or binder
- Pencils and/or pens
- Graphing Calculator (you cannot use any calculator with a CAS system on my assessments)

TEACHER ACCESS

If you wish to contact me, there are several methods at your disposal:

In person – During most times of a typical school day, you will find me either in room 102 or in the math office (room 105).

Getting help or information

Math can be a difficult subject at times, so you are strongly encouraged to get extra help AS SOON AS you feel you are falling behind. Don't wait until the day before a test or quiz to get help. I can be found in room 102 before and after school. Please feel free to come to me if you have any questions or concerns and we'll work together to get you back on track!!

Hours for extra help:

7:20-7:55

3:00-3:20

* There may be days I am not available due to professional meetings. You can always check with me first.

E-mail – Email is probably the best/fastest way to contact me in most cases; I check it pretty frequently while at school and occasionally from home as well. My email address is worloff@hinsdale86.org

Phone – You can leave voice mail for me by dialing (630) 570-8440. I try to check my voicemail every day.

HOMEWORK (weighted 15% of the semester grade)

Homework is an extremely important part of this course. I expect all students to make an honest attempt to complete every assigned problem. Assignments will frequently be checked in class. Failure to try all problems or to show sufficient work may result in reduced or zero credit for that assignment. A list of answers alone is rarely sufficient to receive full credit. Do not assume that doing half of the problems will earn half of the credit available for that assignment. I **do not** except on late work.

Online homework- We will be using MyLab Math. It is an online resource through Pearson. You will be required to complete an online graded assignment for every chapter review. The online assignment will be out of 10 points and you will be given 2-3 attempts per problem and will be do at 8am the morning of the test.

I encourage students to work together on homework. That is, I encourage you to discuss strategies for solving homework problems with one another; I do expect that the actual work will be done individually by each student. Failure to observe this distinction may cost you points on homework, and will almost surely leave you unprepared for quizzes and tests.

QUIZZES & TESTS (weighted 85% of the semester grade)

Tests will always be announced in advance. Quizzes may be announced or unannounced, but in most cases will also be announced. On tests and other assessments, you will be expected to demonstrate knowledge of and fluency with the appropriate terminology as well as the ability to apply the mathematical techniques covered.

Grading scale

A	90 – 100%	D	60 – 69%
B	80 – 89%	F	59% or less
C	70 – 79%		

*A weighted GPA is awarded for A, B, or C in this class, not for a D or F. *

ABSENCES

Attendance is vital. It will be very difficult to do well in this course if you are frequently absent or late. If you are absent, you will need to find out what work you have to make up and to catch up with the material you have missed.

Homework: You should attempt the homework from your calendar when you are absent so you are not too far behind. You will need to complete the missed homework within the same number of days missed. It is your responsibility to show me make up work as I come around to check in homework. I will NOT remind you. If the homework is not shown to me in the time allotted, it will be a zero. For instance, if you're absent Tuesday and you don't show me the homework by Thursday, then it will be a zero. Also, if you are gone Tuesday, then I require that you have the previous night's homework (Monday night's) for me when you show up to class after you are absent.

Quizzes/Tests: I will follow the school policy for make ups of tests and quizzes. If you are gone for a test or quiz, then you have one more day than the number of days missed to make it up, or it is a zero. For example, if you miss 2 days and one of those days was a test/quiz, then you have 3 days to make up the test or quiz with me. If it is not made up in that time period, it will result in a zero. If the absence is unexcused, we will again follow the school policy. *If you miss only the review day before a test or a quiz (and no new material) you must take the quiz or test.*

Please read and sign the attached Electronics Policy form and return it to me by Friday!

Students are expected to give their full attention to classroom activities. Cell phones/smartphones, portable gaming systems, digital music players, and other electronic computing devices should be **turned off** and **put away** when students are in my classroom. **If a student has one of these devices out in class or if it rings in class, that student will receive a written dean's referral.**

- Earbuds/Earpods/headphones need to be completely put away (zipped up in a book bag or under your desk, not dangling from your neck)
- Finish texting/conversing on your phone BEFORE entering the classroom, and have the phone off and put away before class begins.
- Let me know if there is an emergency where you need to contact home right away and I will arrange for you to do so. If there is an emergency where your parents need to reach you, they will be able to contact the school and have you notified in class right away.
- Due to test security concerns, I may ask students to leave any book bags at the front of the room during a quiz/test day so that students do not have phones/IPODS/etc. on their person during the quiz/test (it is believed that students have photographed portions of tests in the past).
- Tests/quizzes will almost always have a graphing-calculator allowed portion. I will typically clear/reset the memory on everyone's calculators before and/or after the test or quiz.
- I may allow personal music players to be out and in use from time to time (if everyone has finished a test early or if there is quiet work time at the end of a class), but make sure that you have been given permission before getting them out.

Google Chromebook: When using the Chromebook in class, it should only be used to work on the assignment(s) and/or lesson given in class. If you are using the Chromebook for any other use besides what we are working on you may receive a referral and your parents will be notified of your inappropriate technology use in the class. If you finish an assignment on the Chromebook early and wish to use the Chromebook for other assignments, please ask for permission from Ms. Orloff first before working on other things.

The goal of my policy is to foster engagement in my classroom and fairness on my class assessments. If you have any questions or concerns about my policy, please contact me (worloff@hinsdale86.org) to discuss them.

Please sign below if you have read and agree to the above policy within my classroom.

Student Signature

Parent Signature
