

ELMIRA HIGH SCHOOL – ALGEBRA 2

Mr. Best - Room 28

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Course Description: In Algebra 2, students will expand on the algebra base built during Algebra 1 and Geometry. Algebra 2 is a course that focuses on math skills, abstract thinking and problem solving. Topics we will explore include the relationship between functions and the behavior of their graphs, including absolute value, quadratic, polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. Additionally, we'll study applications of systems of equations and inequalities, probability and statistics. The course will help prepare students for Smarter Balanced Testing and based on the Common Core standards.

Text(s): *Algebra 2*, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015

Standards Addressed: The following standards are addressed in this course: a.apr.1-7, a.ced.1-4, a.rei.1-12, a.sse.1-2, f.if.1, f.if.4-9, f.bf.1-5, f.le.2, f.le.4-5, g.gpe.1-5, nq.cn.1-3, s.cp.7-9, and s.md.6-7.

Student Expectations:

In a math class it is extremely hard to succeed if you are not in class regularly. Being “on time” for class means you are in the classroom, with the necessary materials, and ready to go. Anything less and you can be marked tardy.

- Be respectful.
- Be 100% present...be physically here, mentally focused, and fully engaged. Fulfill the purpose of the class.
- Be responsible.
 - Turn in due assignments, get missing assignments, and schedule make-up of missed tests.
 - Success in a math class requires engagement during lessons, adequate self-study, and diligence in preparation.
 - Communicate with the teacher about issues relating to absences, missed homework and tests, make-ups and retakes, etc.
- My classroom will follow all building rules, which are detailed in the EHS Student Handbook. Here are a few notable rules:
 - No food or drink other than water is permitted during class.
 - Phones, music devices, headphones, game devices, etc. will not be allowed in class. Exceptions may occur with instructor approval. On the occasion a music device is allowed, it must stay at a volume low enough that nobody else can hear it.
 - Students will not be able to use their phones, tablets, or music devices as calculators. This will be especially enforced during tests.
 - There will be no sharing of calculators during tests.

Required Materials: These materials should be with you in class every day.

- Writing utensils (pens and pencils)
- **Planner**
- Paper
- Textbook
- **Scientific calculator** or graphing calculator
- Binder, folder, and/or notebook for organizing returned assignments, handouts, and notes.

Late Homework and Make-up Tests:

- Homework is due on the day after it is assigned.
- Late homework is accepted, but no later than the following Monday to receive credit.
- Students will only have as many days as they were absent to turn in the assignment for full credit.
- If a student misses a test because of an absence, the student can be expected to make up that test on the day they return. Tests not taken in a timely manner will be given zeros and the student will have to go through the re-take process to take the test.

Test Retakes: Students will have the opportunity to retake tests (not quizzes). In order to do so, the student will need to meet certain criteria. The goal is for students to improve their understanding.

- A student must have all assignments from that unit satisfactorily completed and turned in.
- The student must fully and accurately fill out a *Test Retake Contract* and have it approved by Mr. Best.
- The contract will outline the conditions the student must meet, including providing evidence that the student has worked to improve mastery of the concepts, before a retake will be issued.

Extra Help: Students are encouraged to come in for extra help when needed. Availability times include before and after school, during lunch, during my prep period (5th period), and during Math Lab (7th period). These times are not guaranteed. Due to other duties there will be times when I am not available for help sessions. It is recommended that students check in with me if they plan to come in for help. Students are also encouraged to utilize the Learning Center and Homework Club.

Evaluation / Performance Expectations: All of the following categories will combine to form the overall transcript grade. An academic grade will also be provided that does not include the homework grade.

Homework – 20%

Homework will be graded on completion, quality, and timeliness. On the day after an assignment is assigned, students will have the opportunity to get feedback on their work and be able to ask questions relating to the assignment and the concepts. I will often use this discussion time to reteach concepts or expand on the information from the day before. Homework should be considered due the day after it is assigned and is thereafter considered late. Late homework is only accepted for credit until the following Monday. For homework turned in late due to absence, it is the student's responsibility to communicate on the assignment why it's late if they want it excused.

Quizzes– 20%

Quizzes could be taken in class, or may be a take-home quiz. In both cases they will be graded on accuracy, presentation, and communicating understanding by showing all steps involved in the process. Students should work on the problems on a separate paper and then transfer the finished product to the quiz, much like a final draft of an essay. Quizzes will not be eligible for retakes.

Tests– 50%

Tests will also be end of unit and potentially mid-unit tests that will cover everything in the unit up to that point. These will be graded on accuracy and will be designed to measure the students' knowledge and application of the concepts. See the retake policy mentioned above.

Final Exam – 10%

Taking the final exam is required to pass the class. This test will be a comprehensive assessment of all concepts covered during the semester.

Grade Scale – The standard grading scale used at the school will be used, with scores at the top and bottom 3% of each grade range earning plus and minus notations.

A 90.00 – 100% B 80.00 – 89.99 C 70.00 – 79.99 D 60.00 – 69.99 F <60%

Extra Credit: Extra credit will not generally be offered in this course.

Safety: In the case of a fire drill, we will follow the route that is posted in the classroom. Our class will exit out the door together, in a calm manner, and head right towards the **back** of the parking lot. During a fire drill, students will quickly exit in an orderly fashion and will convene as a class in one spot in the parking lot.

This syllabus is to be kept in the student's notebook.

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