

Rocky Mountain Lutheran High School
Algebra I Course Syllabus
2010 -2011

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Text - Saxon Algebra I, Copyright 2009

Course Outcomes

On the completion of this course the student should be able to:

1. Use various problem solving strategies in order to analyze problems and formulate appropriate solution strategies;
2. Express, interpret, and graph functions, specifically linear and quadratic, but they will have had experience with others;
3. Use variables to represent relations from tables, graphs, verbally stated problems, and geometric diagrams, and understand that algebraic relations can be tested by substitutions of numbers;
4. Solve linear and quadratic equations and systems of linear equations, and understand their relationship to the graphs of functions;
5. Use ratio, proportion, and direct variation from numerical, geometric, and algebraic perspectives;
6. Use the Distributive Property and order of operations to reorganize algebraic expressions into more useful forms. Early examples will be in conjunction with perimeter, area, and volume relationships.

Course Requirements and Expectations

Students in this class are expected:

1. To do the problems assigned as homework. Grades will not be taken everyday, but the only way to understand algebra is to do algebra.
2. Work well within your group. Groups are randomly assigned. That is the way life is. You must learn how to work and use the abilities of the people within your group.
3. Do your work in pencil and use erasers to make corrections. If you never make a mistake you never learn.
4. Show your work. There will be times when I will take your calculators away. You must understand how the calculator is arriving at the answers it provides you. That is how you check your calculator.
5. Have your homework done at the start of class. There will be days when that will be your grade. Then we will go through your problems.
6. Ask questions before we start correcting. I am available before school, before class, during study halls, and at lunch.
7. You will be given five minutes at the start of class to go over your homework with your teammates. You may make changes to your work at that time.

Materials Needed

Students should bring to class the following items:

1. Two pencils with erasers
2. Ruler – inch and centimeter scale
3. Graph paper
4. Scientific calculator
5. A three inch three ring binder with a toolkit pouch for holding classroom materials.
6. Textbook

Course Grading

Some group work will be included in Saxon Algebra I. Working in groups develops teamwork and the service attitude present in Christians who are concerned with helping a brother in need. But, finally an outcome of the class is that each student be able to do this work on their own. The

following grading system places a large emphasis on the student's ability to do the work using their own knowledge.

Tests – 40% of the student's grade

Quizzes – 25% of students grade

Homework – 15% of students grade – Students will be graded on certain problems from different lessons throughout the year.

Notebooks – 10% of student's grade Notebooks will be graded on neatness, organization, and how completely work has been done.

Semester tests -10%