

Durling Middle School

Algebra I

Teacher: Mrs. Kari Cooley
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Classroom: Rm 141
Planning Period: 9:50-10:40

Course Description

In this Algebra course, students will be receiving high school credit for a passing grade. We will be covering key concepts that align with the new Common Core Standards and follow along with the Algebra I course offered at the high school. These standards will be tested on in April to show a yearly growth. Some of these key topics will be: equations, inequalities, functions, exponents, factoring polynomials and data analysis. Students were tested into this class and may opt out of it within the first two weeks if they so choose.

Classroom Rules and Policies

Within the classroom we will be following all school rules stated in the student handbook each student receives at the beginning of the year. Other rules for the classroom include:

1. Positive behaviors (no insults, hitting, or threatening)
2. Respect for each others' belongings including the teacher
3. Be a role model

Required Materials

On a daily basis students will be required to bring all materials with them to class. Failure to do so will result in consequences.

Textbook: Holt McDougal Algebra 1
Calculator: TI-30X IIS
Folder for Accelerated Math

Cost if Lost or Damaged: \$75.00
Cost if Lost Damaged: \$15.00

Other materials to bring to class daily:

Binder, Pencils, Grading Pens, Dry Erase Marker,

Instructional Strategies, Activities, and Technology

Accelerated Math (AM)

Accelerated math will be used throughout the entire school year. Students will be expected to work on AM assignments on their own with *limited* time being offered in class. Students will be expected to scan their assignments within **3 school days** of receiving that assignment. Failure to scan that assignment will result in a detention. Students will be expected to achieve a **75%** or higher accuracy on Practices and **85%** or higher on Tests. Tests will be completed in class to prove mastery of the content.

Study Island

Study Island is an online tool that helps practice the standards that are tested. In this class, students will be required to achieve blue ribbons for the given objectives for the quarter. Algebra students will be assigned the 8th grade math ribbons to fill the gaps of what they are missing from the 8th grade curriculum. Students will have the entire quarter to achieve the blue ribbons assigned. At the end of the quarter, students will receive a grade for achieving the given blue ribbons. Students may work ahead on any concept if they choose. For those students without Internet access, they can work out a schedule of coming in before school, during recess, or after school to complete the assignment. Prior notice is appreciated. Those that complete the entire math library will receive a reward at the end of the school year.

Canvas

New this year students will be using an online learning environment called Canvas. This environment will give students online access to all worksheets, lectures and resources. Students will be required to take notes, record homework assignments into the system from home or in the case of limited Internet access at the beginning of class. Using this system, students will be able to access a “to-do list” of assignments as well as a “grade book” that will allow them to see what they have and have-not turned in.

Assessments

Homework

In math there will be homework every night. If new content is not assigned, students should be working on Accelerated Math. Homework should be done at home or prior to entering class. Excuses of “I don’t know how to do this” are unacceptable. As a teacher I look for effort and attempt. I will not assign homework until I feel students can accomplish it with accuracy and confidence. If students are unaware of how to complete the assignment they should look at the examples that were completed in class and refer to the module in Canvas for additional resources. Students will need to stay organized and turn in assignments on time to effectively show what they know. The homework policy for this class is that late work will be accepted for partial credit up to 2 days following the due date of the assignment.

Quizzes

From time to time students will take quizzes to show their learning. Some quizzes will be announced and some will not. These quizzes will show what the students have learned and what we have to continue working on in class together. There will be notebook quizzes as well not only over content but also over dates notes were taken, headings and examples to ensure students are bringing their notes to class each day.

Tests

Tests will be at the end of every chapter. Students will be required to show evidence of their learning and growth in that particular module. Students will know in advance when a test will occur. Students are encouraged to do practice questions to study for the tests.

Student Ethics and Other Policies

Late Assignments

Philosophy: Homework in math is to practice the skills learned. If you don't practice, you are not showing if you can master the skill.

The homework policy for this class is that late work will be accepted for a deduction of 2 points up to 2 days following the due date of the assignment. Assignments turned in after the 2 days completed will receive the lowest "D" (unless scored lower). If an assignment is not turned in, the grade will result as a 0 in the gradebook.

Absent Policy

If a student is absent from class for any reason, it is the student's responsibility to turn in or get any materials that was completed in class. All assignments and notes will be posted on Canvas. Excuses of "not getting it" will not be accepted. If a student was absent on a day the assignment was due, they are expected to turn it in the next day. If a student was absent the day an assignment was given, they will be given the additional day to complete it without penalty however should take the initiative to print/get the assignment prior to class.

Contact with Teacher

The best way to contact me after hours is via email. I will respond to any email questions that come to me within 24-hours (unless it is a weekend which may take a bit longer). Messages through Canvas will be checked as well but you will not receive as quick of a response. Students can come in before school (7:20) or come in during lunch or recess.

Academic Honesty

Students are responsible for completing their own work. If students are found cheating they will receive an automatic "0" on the assignment and not be able to redo it. I do ask that when students complete homework assignments at home that parents do provide guidance when needed, however please allow students to piece together your instruction to complete the assignment themselves.

Grading

At Durling we use a grading scale of:

100- 90	A
89 - 80	B
79 - 70	C
69 - 60	D
59 and Below	F

Students will take a midterm and final exam in December and May respectively. The exams will cover the material taught during that semester and count toward the semester grade.

Grades for this class will be inserted into the online grade book and each quarter will be weighted. Grades will be calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{1st Semester Grade} &= \text{1st Quarter (40\%)} + \text{2nd Quarter (40\%)} + \text{Midterm Exam (20\%)} \\ \text{2nd Semester Grade} &= \text{3rd Quarter (40\%)} + \text{4th Quarter (40\%)} + \text{Final Exam (20\%)} \end{aligned}$$

Students will receive semester grades that will be reported to the high school. These grades will then be put on their transcripts and towards their GPA. At the end of the school year, students will be recommended into Honors Algebra II, Algebra II or to retake Algebra I. If a student elects to retake Algebra I, their grade will get replaced with the new one. To receive high school credit, the student needs to pass the class. Students will take the EOY AIR Assessment. These results will also impact the students high school placement as well.

Material covered 1st Semester

Chapter 1: Equations

Chapter 2: Inequalities

Chapter 3: Functions

Chapter 4: Linear Functions

Midterm: December 14th

Material Covered 2nd Semester

Chapter 5: Systems of Equations and Inequalities

Chapter 6: Exponents and Polynomials

Chapter 7: Factoring Polynomials

Chapter 8: Quadratic Functions

Final Exam: May 15th (Date subject to change)

Grading Periods:

1st: August 17- October 18

2nd: October 19 – December 21

3rd: January 4 – March 13

4th March 14 – May 24