



**Algebra I
SY 2007-08**

Ms. Isaacks

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1. My philosophy: I believe that all students can learn algebra and feel successful in the math classroom. I also believe that, as a teacher, I must create an environment in which you can take responsibility for your own learning. Today we begin an excursion through the fascinating subject of algebra. I hope that you will find that journey interesting, informative, and stimulating. I am looking forward to working with you this year, and I hope that you have a rewarding and productive school year.

2. Supplies needed: Please bring the following supplies to class every day:

1. McDougal Littell Algebra 1 and workbook
2. A three-ring loose-leaf binder. You should have dividers to separate it into 5 sections: (a) class notes; (b) problem sets; (c) returned tests and quizzes; (d) learning log; and (e) blank loose-leaf paper and graph paper.
3. Graphing calculator: a TI-83Plus or TI-84
4. Ruler or straightedge
5. Pencils and erasers: please complete all work in pencil
6. Colored pencil or pen: bright color for correcting work

3. Grading policies: Your quarter grade will be computed as follows:

25% Problem Sets and Binder:

Problem Sets: This course covers numerous mathematical concepts, and it is important that you keep up by doing all work assigned regularly. Problem sets will generally be assigned each day that class meets and be due at the beginning of the following session. Each problem set assignment will be worth five points - you will earn three points for completion of the odd-numbered problems, two points for accuracy of selected even-numbered problems. Late assignments will not be accepted.

NOTE: At the beginning of the week, I will hand out a weekly agenda with all problem set assignments listed. If an assignment needs to be changed (for example, we aren't able to cover the material I had planned), I will announce the change in class and post it on K12 Planet.

Binder: I will collect and grade binders each time you are taking a Chapter Test in class. Each binder check will be worth 20 points.

60% Tests and Quizzes: Expect to have two types of quizzes: lesson quizzes over one or two sections of the textbook and take-home review quizzes over material covered in

previous chapters. Expect to have three types of tests: tests midway through each chapter; tests at the end of each chapter; and quarter tests covering the chapters we have studied each quarter.

15% Investigations and Projects: Each quarter you will complete a series of investigations and at least one project. You will also keep a learning log in which you will be asked to reflect on your understanding of mathematical concepts.

Your semester average will be computed as follows:

First quarter average	42.5%
Second quarter average	42.5%
Semester Examination	15%

4. Tentative Course Outline:

Quarters 1 and 2: Chapters 1 - 6

Expressions, Equations, and Functions; Properties of Real Numbers; Solving Linear Equations; Graphing Linear Equations and Functions; Writing Linear Equations; and Solving and Graphing Linear Inequalities

Quarters 3 and 4: Chapters 7 - 13

Systems of Equations and Inequalities; Exponents and Exponential Functions; Polynomials and Factoring; Quadratic Equations and Functions; Radicals and Geometry Connections; Rational Equations and Functions; selected topics in Probability

5. Classroom Management: All students should be familiar with the school rules covered in the Parent and Student Handbook. Additionally, everyone is expected to follow the four school-wide agreements: mutual respect, attentive listening, appreciations/no put-downs, and right to pass/right to participate. Any student who chooses to violate a rule or an agreement will first be given a verbal warning. The second infraction will result in a 15-minute after-school detention. The third infraction will result in a referral to the principal. Severe infractions may result in an immediate referral with no verbal warning and/or detention.

6. Extra help: I am available during second lunch (Monday through Thursday), after school (any day except Tuesday), or during Period 5. Please don't hesitate to ask for help. You should also utilize the online resources at www.classzone.com/cz/books/algebra_1_2007_na/book_home.htm

I have read through this Algebra I course syllabus, have asked clarifying questions if necessary, and have discussed the contents with my parents/guardians.

Student's signature

Parent/Guardian's signature