

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

In this course, our main focus is for each student to understand the concepts of Algebra II and be able to apply them to solve problems. Students will be given many opportunities to practice these skills and work to master the content through classroom activities and homework before showing what they know on unit tests. Students will be frequently asked to self-assess their understanding, and to work in pairs, small groups, or as a class to improve each others' comprehension.

Below is an explanation of the various assessment practices we will use throughout the year to help the students learn the material:

Homework: Students will be given homework assignments to practice their skills individually on a regular basis. These assignments are crucial for students to expand their understanding and will give both the students and me an opportunity to check their comprehension of small amounts of material before attempting new material. It is very important that the students attempt and give serious thought to all problems, as our difficult content is best learned through this individual practice. Homework assignments will be discussed and checked the next day in class, giving students the opportunity to ask questions of each other and of me to further increase their understanding

Projects/Class Assignments: There may be a few projects or other classroom assignments where students will be asked to apply previous knowledge to real-life tasks or in-depth problems. These assignments may be graded and count towards students' quarter grades.

Tests and Quizzes: Tests will be given at the end of each unit, and quizzes or practice quizzes will be given throughout each unit. *You may or may not be permitted to use your calculator on a test or quiz.*

Retake Policy: Per Math Department Policy, students enrolled in Algebra II will be limited to one retake per quarter. Students will have the option to retake any unit test for which they have demonstrated their attempt to learn the material **before** taking the original test. In order to retake a test, students must provide sufficient evidence of their prior attempt to master the material to the teacher. Students must have completed at least 70% of the assignments for the unit BEFORE the original unit test.

Once a student has established eligibility to retake a unit test, he or she must complete the following requirements:

1. **Have all assignments from the unit complete.** If any assignment is incomplete or not turned in, it must first be made up before the student is able to retake a test. All make up homework is expected to be accurate and demonstrate understanding of the concepts and mastery of the material. All assignments must be turned in by the end of the school day (2:30pm) one week after receiving the graded original test.
2. **Complete test corrections from the original test.** On a separate sheet of paper, students must show the correct work and solution for each of those problems missed. Students may *schedule time* to work with me if assistance is needed for successful completion of the test corrections.
3. **Turn in these corrections and the original test to me.** I will check that the student understands his or her mistakes and has worked each of the problems correctly. If there are still errors, I will hand the corrections back and ask that the student attempts any problems that are still inaccurate. This will continue until the student has mastered the material or the retake deadline has passed. The final draft of the corrections must be turned in by the end of the school day (2:30pm) one week after receiving the graded original test.

4. **Schedule a time to retake the test.** When everything is completed, the student will be permitted to schedule the test retake. This must happen BEFORE the retake deadline (within one week of receiving the graded original test). The student will have 8 school days from the day the original test is passed back to retake it. This can occur before school, after school, or during a study hall. Students will not take the same test, but it will be over the same material and of the same difficulty.

*The score earned on the retake will **replace** the score on the original test. Students may only take one retake, and they will not be able to keep the physical copy of the retake.

Attendance and Make-Up Work: In the event of an absence, students are responsible for obtaining their own make-up work. Assignments can be found by the student in the white crate in the back of my classroom. You can check my website to find out what was covered that day. I will post homework assignments and notes on the course website. Work can only be made up for credit if the absence is excused according to guidelines in the student handbook. You will be allowed the number of days absent plus one to make up work (this includes all homework assignments, quizzes and tests). Assignments (including quizzes and tests) may not be taken for credit after that time.

Working Together: You will be expected to work with your classmates on a regular basis. Keep in mind that one person simply telling the others how to do a problem, or worse, simply copying someone else's work, has no educational value, and therefore defeats the purpose of the assignment. If this happens, it will be dealt with accordingly.

Help Outside of Class: I will be available for extra help on an appointment basis. You must ask for help at least a day in advance; I have to attend any number of meetings after school and am not always able to easily rearrange my schedule. Please abide by this request so that I can give you the time and attention that you deserve. Any short questions or quick discussions are always welcome.

*You can also seek help from math teachers in the Math Lab (room 2108) every period except 4th throughout the day. You **MUST** obtain a pass from me before going to the Math Lab. Study hall teachers will not be able to give you a pass to the Math Lab. Plan accordingly!

