

Pre-Calculus – Honors Level
2018-2019
Mrs. Allshouse

Welcome to our math class. Let's work together to make this a successful year for all of us!

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is a yearlong Pre-Calculus course taught at an honors pace. Students are placed in this course having completed; Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II / Trig. all at an honors level and must have a teacher recommendation. The students will acquire knowledge of the following: Systems of Equations and Inequalities; Sequences, Series, and Probability; Topics in Analytic Geometry; Vectors; Analytical Geometry in Three Dimensions; Limits and Introduction to Calculus.

TEXT: *PreCalculus with Limits*, by Larson and Hostetler.

Items needed daily

- A three-ring binder
- Loose leaf paper – I will not accept any paper with frayed edges.
- Graph paper
- Straight-edge
- Graphic calculator
- Pencils – All work to be handed in must be in pencil.

To be successful in this class:

1. Come to class prepared.
2. Always pay attention in class and take good notes.
3. Do homework assignments to reinforce material and to prepare you for tests.
4. Study for tests by reviewing notes, assignments, and the text.
5. Observe the MPS honor code and follow the student expectations outlined in your handbook.

GRADING

Letter grades and percentage grades will follow the grading rules set forth in the Mercyhurst Prep handbook. Students will receive three term grades and one final assessment grade. Term grades will consist of total points converted into a percentage and letter grade at the end of each trimester. A comprehensive final assessment will be given at the end the year worth $\frac{1}{7}$ of the final grade. Seniors who have a yearlong A are not required to take the final exam!

Homework

Homework will be assigned daily. Collected homework is due at the start of class. If homework is handed in any time after the start of class it will be considered late and points will be deducted. No credit will be given once the assignment is returned to the class. If you are absent the day homework is due, you must hand it in the day you return (even if this is not a class day). Homework will be posted on the MPS website. I cannot stress enough the importance of practice in a math class. The assignments are carefully selected to ensure enough practice to gain a solid understanding of the concepts we are working on.

In-Class Assignments

In-class assignments are given to allow students to use their notes to complete problems pertaining to the topics we are currently working on. This set of problems will help us to gain a better understanding of where you are in mastering the unit concepts. They are handed in at the end of class.

Tests

Tests are usually announced two classes ahead of the test date. An outline with review problems will be handed out the class period before the exam.

ATTENDANCE

If you are absent from a class, you are responsible to do the following:

- 1) Obtain missed notes from a classmate before the next class.
- 2) Check the website for a summary of what was done in class and the homework assigned.
- 3) If necessary, get any document that were handed out in class.

If you are absent on a test day, you are responsible to do the following:

- 1) Have a parent or guardian notify me via e-mail stating that they are aware that you are missing an exam.
- 2) You must email me to tell me the day you will be returning to school so that we can arrange a make-up exam. Please be prepared to make up the test during your class time as soon as possible (within a day or two).

Behavior

It is important to create a positive learning environment in every class. This is very easy to achieve. We must always respect one another, be compassionate towards one another and empower one another by believing in our own potential and the potential of everyone in the class. The vision statement, the mission statement, and the academic honesty policy, which exemplify the charism of a Mercy education, are all an integral part of this classroom.

Extra Help

Please utilize our class time together as much as possible. Even the brightest of students have difficulty understanding concepts in mathematics. Please do not hesitate to see me if you are having trouble, and try not to get behind.

It is easier to keep up than catch up.

If you have any questions or concerns and would like to meet with me outside of class, please send me an e-mail or speak with me after class and we will set up a time to meet. My email is pallshouse@mpslakers.com.

Good luck & have a fantastic year!

