

**Course Description:** This course is an introduction to algebra through reading, learning skills, using today's technology, and discussing applications. Emphasis will be placed on gathering data and problem solving.

**Textbook:** Glencoe Algebra 1: Integration, Applications, Connections

**Aims and Objectives:**

The student will learn:

- S - Skills of mathematics
- P - Processes behind those skills
- U - Uses of the skills in today's world
- R - Representation of the skills in graphs and charts

**Instructional Activities:** Classroom activities will consist primarily of problem solving, demonstrations, note taking, data gathering, completing lesson masters, discussing exercises, and starting assignments.

**Classroom Rules:**

1. Any rules applying to classroom conduct addressed in the student handbook including no hats, pagers, laser pointers, etc.
2. Students may bring bottled water to class, but building policy prohibits food and pop in the classroom. Chewing gum is also **not** allowed in the classroom.
3. Students are expected to bring their class materials (book, folder, notebook, writing utensil) to class **EVERY** day. This includes your **Planner** (assignment book). Pencils and pens will not be loaned out.
4. Student work will be submitted in blue or black ink or gray pencil. Work should be neat and free of stray marks, personal notes or drawings.
5. Students are required to keep an Algebra Folder and Notebook. A paper two-pocket folder and a one-subject notebook will suffice. Textbooks must be **covered** at all times.
6. **Planners** will be used as the hall pass. Students will fill out the time and destination in the book and have me initial it before leaving the room. Each student will be afforded **three** passes per marking period. Use them wisely. *Note:* Students must use their own assignment book, not a friend's. If you do not have your pass book and have to leave class you will be assigned an ATS.
7. Students must be **in the room** when the bell rings or considered tardy. Students must remain at their desks until the dismissal bells sounds. We do not line up at the door!
8. Students will behave in a manner appropriate for a classroom including participating in all activities during each class period.
9. It is rude to get up from your seat during class discussions. This will not be allowed. Please use the pencil sharpener and waste basket at appropriate times.

10. Students should respect the property of the school and other students. My desk, cabinets, the computer, and all windows are off limits.

**Discipline Procedure:** The following process will be followed for violations of the above rules.

1. First offenses will result in a verbal warning and documented in the record book.
2. Second offenses will result in a second verbal warning and also documented in the record book.
3. Third offenses will result in at ATS (detention) and parents will be contacted.
4. If behavior continues the student will be referred to the office.

**Student Assignments:** Expect to have homework assigned EVERY day. To receive full credit for each assignment it must be finished by the beginning of the hour on the due date. Students must show that they have worked every problem. For challenging or confusing problems, students can write the problem down and show evidence that an attempt to solve has been made. Getting the phone number of at least one student in the class to call for help is recommended. You may also contact me through email at **amurphy@swcrk.org**.

Homework problems should be worked **down the page** so that the problems use more than one line of the paper. This is a must. Many problems will take more than one line of notebook paper!

**Evaluation Procedures and Grading:** The number of points earned throughout the grading period will determine grades. Each assignment will be returned with the score and the total possible. These should be recorded on the chapter assignment sheet and kept in the math folder. Letter grades will be assigned using the following standard scale:

A: 93% - 100%	A-: 90% - 92%	B+: 87% - 89%
B: 83% - 86%	B-: 80% - 82%	C+: 77% - 79%
C: 73% - 76%	C-: 70% - 72%	D+: 67% - 69%
D: 63% - 66%	D-: 60% - 62%	E: < 60%

Typical breakdown of points for assignments is as follows (*Any variance from the chart below will be announced in advance.*):

Daily exercises:	5 points
Quizzes:	20 points
Lesson Masters:	5 - 20 points
Chapter tests:	50 points
Chapter Folder:	10 points

**Semester Grade:** Each semester's final exam will count 15% of the final semester grade, which is a significant amount. The remaining 85% will be split between the two marking periods. Students must pass **two** of the three to pass the semester. In other words, an E for one of the marking periods and the exam will result in an E for the semester regardless of the overall average.

This syllabus should remain in the student's Algebra Folder for the entire year. It should be signed and dated by the student and parent below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student / Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent / Date