Honors Pre-Calculus

Ms. Witulski

# Course Description:

Pre-Calculus is designed to prepare you for Calculus. The course will support mathematical thinking and understanding functions from symbolic, tabular and graphical perspectives. Topics covered will include trigonometry, transformations and function composition, rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions.

Materials:

* Primary Textbook:

## Trigonometry (4th Edition)

Larson and Hostelter

* Graphing calculator:

It is helpful if students have their own graphing calculator, as there will be homework assignments where it is required. Instruction is given using primarily the TI-84 and the

TI-Nspire, however other graphing calculators may be used.

Grading:

Grades will be determined with the DPS grading scale and will be based quizzes, projects, exams and other work done in class

* Exams (60%). Exams will be given every three weeks. Some exams (or parts of exams) may require the use of a graphing calculator. All exams are closed book with no notes. Students are required to support their answers with appropriate work or justifications on each problem.
* Quizzes, Projects, etc (40%)
  + Multiple Choice Quizzes will be given every three weeks. Questions will include current and review material.
  + Benchmark Quizzes will be given every three weeks. These quizzes will be open note and based on current material. Questions on the quiz will be similar to the recommended practice problems.
  + Retention Quizzes will be given every week, highlighting concepts you need to know. If you are absent for a retention quiz, the summative quiz at the end of the grading period will make up for any missing quizzes. Topics covered include: Unit circle values, factoring, solving equations, writing an equation of a line, derivatives, etc.
* Practice Problems

For each topic covered practice problems from the book will be given. It is HIGHLY recommended that students do all of the problems to improve their understanding. Completed practice problems will be required to do exam corrections. The solutions and work to all problems will be available for students to check their work and understanding.

When given time during class, it is expected that students are working on these problems.

**Multiple Choice Quizzes, Benchmark Quizzes and Exams will be given every Thursday on a rotating schedule. If you are absent, you have until the end of the following Monday to make up the quiz or exam.**

Make-up work: If you miss class for any reason, you are not excused from the work assigned that day. It is your responsibility to request make-up work or schedule time to make up tests. Make-up work will only be given at lunch, before and after school. Do not plan on having class time to makeup work. All notes will be posted online at: tj-witulski.wikispaces.com

Classroom Expectations:

* Be considerate of the other people in the room. **Don’t interrupt anyone who is taking**, whether it is a student or teacher.

**Unrelated conversation does not help you or your grade**.

If you don’t understand something, ask a question. THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A DUMB QUESTION. As long as questions are legitimate, I will take time to answer them. Make sure you use your class time wisely.

* Come to class on time and prepared to learn. Bring your book, paper, pencil, calculator and supplies.
* Attempt ALL work to the best of your ability and take responsibility in asking for help.
* No cell phones, headphones, electronic games, or video or audio devices
* If you bring in food or drinks, take care of your trash – excess trash will revoke all food and beverage privileges.

Please come in for help if you have questions. I am available:

Tuesdays from 3:00 – 4:00

Wednesdays during office hours (2:14 – 2:50)

Most days before school (7:00 – 7:20), lunch, 8th period, and after school (2:50 – 3:15)

Other times by appointment

I will be more than happy to work with you.

Feel free to call me at school or send me an e-mail with any concerns.

Phone: 720-423-7136 E-mail: [aimee\_witulski@dpsk12.org](mailto:aimee_witulski@dpsk12.org) Website: tj-witulski.wikispaces.com