

Mr. Backeberg's PreCalculus Syllabus

Course Description: PreCalculus combines the algebraic, geometric, and trigonometric techniques needed to prepare students for the study of calculus, and strengthens students' conceptual understanding of problems and mathematical reasoning in solving problems. Familiarity with these topics is especially important for students intending to study calculus, physics and other sciences, and/or engineering in college.

Topics Covered in Class: Functions and their graphs, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometry, analytic trigonometry, systems of equations and inequalities, matrices and determinants, conic sections, limits and an introduction to calculus

Materials Needed Daily: Textbook, paper, pencil, graphing calculator, headphones. I highly recommend using a 3-ring binder to organize notes, homework, and other materials for class.

Graphing Calculators: Graphing calculators are required for class. I recommend using a TI-84 CE. The math department does have calculators that can be rented for \$10 per semester if you don't own your own ([rental information](#), [rental form](#)). Students **will not** be allowed to use their phone or other devices that take pictures and/or communicate with others during tests and quizzes.

Responsibilities of the Instructor:

- I will be on time and prepared for class. In the case of a substitute, detailed plans will be arranged to give you the opportunity to continue learning without interruption.
- I will be honest about any mistakes that I make and correct them as soon as I am made aware of them.
- I will treat you fairly and provide equal access to all the material presented in this class.
- I will grade and return quizzes, tests, etc. in a timely manner.

Responsibilities of the Student:

- You will read and abide by this syllabus (you will be held accountable for all information).
- You will come to class on time, prepared, and ready to learn.
- You will seek extra help when you don't understand a topic.
- You will treat all people in the classroom with common courtesy and respect.
- You will participate in class to the best of your ability.
- You will maintain a personal standard of academic ethics. In no way participate or give the appearance of contributing to any cheating, copying, and/or plagiarizing.
- You will communicate with your parents/guardians about your progress in the course.
- You will aim for success!

Absences: For RAHS absence policies, please see the [student handbook](#). If you are absent, you are responsible for making up any and all missed work. My website is available for all notes and assignments.

Cell-phones: Bell to bell, no cell. Student cell phones must remain silent, out of sight, and not used during class unless permitted by the teacher for instructional purposes.

- 1st time: Verbal warning
- 2nd time: I will hold on to your phone until the end of the class period.
- After 2nd violation: Phone will be delivered to the main office and may be picked up after school

Formative Assessments: Formative assessments are assessments *for learning*. The goal of formative assessment is to monitor student learning and provide ongoing feedback that can be used by both the student and the instructor to improve learning. Formative assessments may include daily homework assignments, study guides, notebooks, notecards, quizzes, and many other “practice” items. Formative assessments provide the opportunity for feedback and increase success on summative assessments.

Summative Assessments: Summative assessments are assessments *of learning*. The goal of summative assessment is to evaluate student learning at the end of an instructional unit. Summative assessments may include tests, projects, presentations, demonstrations, and anything that may be used to make a judgment of a student’s ability level or mastery of content.

Homework: Homework is meant to give students an opportunity to practice with the content in class. Assignments will be given daily and it is your responsibility to have them finished. If you have questions about the material being covered, make sure you are using your class time to get those questions answered. If you have more questions than can be answered in class, you are expected to seek additional help.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be taken approximately every 2 sections. Since this class has an element of self-pacing, when you take those quizzes will be up to you, but I will provide a “suggested pacing guide” for each test. All work must be shown to receive full credit. Retakes are NOT allowed on formative quizzes.

Tests: Tests will not be self-paced (everyone will take the test on the same day, according to the pacing guide). If a student has a pre-arranged absence on a test day, the test should be taken before the absence. If an absence is not pre-arranged, the test must be made up **on the day of your return**. Being absent the day before a test does not automatically exclude you from taking the test. All work must be shown to receive full credit.

Retakes: Any summative assessment can be retaken in an attempt to improve your score. Please refer to the [retake policy](#) for more details.

Grades: Formative grades will make up 20% of your grade and summative grades will make up 80% of your grade. The school’s grading scale applies to all grades.

RAHS GRADING SCALE											
A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
100-95	94-92	91-89	88-86	85-83	82-80	79-77	76-74	73-71	70-68	67-65	64-0

Behavior: All school rules apply. Be responsible, respectful, and always give your best effort.

Consequences for not Following Rules:

- 1) Verbal warning
- 2) Before or after school meeting with me
- 3) Office referral and parent notification