

Course Information — ALGEBRA 1

Instructor - Andrew Busch

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ICE room 1st semester: M1128



Course Description

Math isn't about who gets done the fastest or who understands it first.

Mathematics is the study of patterns. Mathematicians notice patterns, describe patterns, and generalize patterns. Being "good at math" is more about effort and persistence than how 'smart' you are. No matter how you think of yourself as a math student, I will do my best to make this a 'fun' class.

I hope to have an exciting time exploring the core ideas of math with you; from solving abstract equations to searching for patterns in the world around us. I'm excited to go on this journey with you!

Classroom Expectations

Please be familiar with the student handbook. I will enforce it to the letter. My classroom expectations boil down quite nicely.

- Be Brave.
- Be Kind.
- Bring your stuff with you.
(i.e. Chromebook, calculator, 3-ring binder, writing utensil, paper, glasses, etc.)
- Put your phone away so we can make mistakes together without fear of being recorded.

What You Will Need

- Any *Scientific* calculator. [Something like this](#) is perfect.
(I won't let you use your phone in class as a calculator)
- 3-ring binder (1 ½ inch) and lined/graph paper dedicated to this class ONLY
- 5 divider tabs (suggestions for labels at the end of this document)
- Ruler/straight edge
- Chromebook
- PLEASE purchase a pack of DRY ERASE MARKERS for the classroom to use. We will use LOTS and LOTS of markers this semester. Other classes are bringing in other classroom supplies.

Course Grades

80% Assessments (The Final Exam is 15% of this category)

20% Practice

ICE--Extra help time

- Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:25am - 9am. Everyone is welcome!
- You are required to come if you have a D or an F in this course. The required time is on Tuesdays from 7:25 to 8.

Cell Phones

Class Website: we will primarily use Schoology

The student handbook states: "Cell phones should be placed in the classroom caddy at the start of class, OR students may choose to not bring them to class". If I see your phone after class starts, I will take it until 3pm. If it happens again, you will need to get it back from the office.

Course Communication

- Email is my preferred method of communication. When writing an email:
 - *Include your name, the class name, subject of the message (e.g., Heather Smith--Alg1--Quick question) in the SUBJECT LINE*
 - *Ask a specific question or clearly describe what you need help with.*
Note: It may take up to 24 hours to receive a reply during the week and 48 hours on the weekend, so do not wait until the last minute to send a message if you need help.
- Announcements will be posted in Schoology
- Go to www.remind.com and join using class code: **buscha1**
(Or you can text 81010 the message: **@buscha1** -- you need the @ symbol)

Absences

- Check Schoology for any work you missed and a video lesson if I made one.
- I will post notes and assignments in Schoology for every class period.

Practice Work

- ALL assignments will be turned into Schoology as a PDF.
- Graded on completion ONLY.
- All work must be shown to receive credit.
 - I'm going to post the answers to pretty much every practice assignment. Can we agree on the "why" of this policy?
- Name, section number, and assigned problems must be at the top of your paper.
- Late work:
 - 8/10 credit up until the unit assessment
 - 5/10 credit one unit after it is due.
 - I will not accept late work more than one unit after it is due. I'm not interested in your Unit 1 work if we're in Unit 3.

Tests/Quizzes

- All tests and quizzes must be completed during the block in which it is given.
- If you are absent the day of the assessment you will take it in the testing center (**W2220**) within 2 days of your return. For example, if you miss a test on Wednesday and come back to school on Thursday, you must have the test completed by Friday afternoon.

Notes

- Notes will be taken every day and the entire unit's notes will count as a homework grade on the day of the unit test.
- Section number and/or learning target must be listed for each day
- You are responsible for any notes you miss (this includes absences for sports or illness). I will post notes for every class as a pdf in that day's Schoology folder.

Suggested Binder Tabs

- Current Notes
- Previous Notes
- Current Work: All work done during the current unit
- Previous Work: This will begin filling after unit 1

- Assessments