



CHOICE Pre-Algebra & Algebra 1 Academic & Discipline Plan

PROUD to be Crimson Bears; preparing lifelong learners in a challenging and inclusive environment.
Personalized, Resilient, Optimistic, Unified, Diverse.

Instructor	Ms. Razor	E-mail	alexandra.razor@juneauschools.org
		Website	www.msrazormath.com
		Twitter	@RazorMath
Office Hours	During enrichment and by appointment	Phone	907-523-1592

Course Description:

In Pre-algebra and Algebra I, students will learn how to think algebraically and solve all types of problems. Students will learn critical topics that are needed to be successful in High School mathematics classes. Students will focus on solving equations and inequalities, working with functions (linear, quadratic, and exponential), working with polynomials, and working with radicals.

Please note: Enrollment in a yearlong class is a commitment for the entire school year. Requests for changes must include a conference with the parent, student, and teacher.

Text(s):

Big Ideas Math: Algebra I, 2019. We will begin using the textbook towards the end of the first semester. A student can check out a book from the library OR use the online version. Most assignments will be required to be turned in online.

Please note: Many textbooks are issued through the JDHS Library's textbook management system. If a book is checked out through the JDHS Library, it must be returned in the same condition at the end of the course or unit of study. Failure to return a book or damage to a book may result in a monetary fine based on the value of the textbook and restricted access to PowerSchool.

Materials to Bring to Class:

Pencil(s)
Composition Notebook
Glue stick(s)
Lined paper

At this time, I am also taking class donations to have supplies to last the entire year. It would be great if each student brought in 1 or 2 of the items listed below.

- Kleenex
- Pencils (preferably Ticonderoga)
- Glue Sticks
- Expo Markers (students will use them a lot this year during different activities)

Learning Management System:

The Juneau School District is using Canvas as a system-wide learning management system. This learning management system is designed to support students and families with a simpler and more connected learning experience. It will be one-stop shopping for all of our course assignments, announcements and other relevant information.

Proper Heading for Papers:

In the top right corner, please include the following:

First Name, Last Initial
Assignment Name

Papers need to be easy to read, and answers should be circled, boxed, or highlighted. Assignments also **must** be completed in pencil. Full credit will not be given for work done in pen, marker, crayon, etc.

Course Syllabus:

Students are notified of which assignments are due and when upcoming assessments, projects, etc., are due in our Canvas Pre-Algebra course. My website, www.msrazormath.com will contain helpful videos and other resources that can be used throughout the year.

Goals/Objectives:

1st Quarter: Students will learn (or review) material that is typically taught in middle school. This first quarter we will focus on students becoming comfortable with fractions, integers, and percents. These three topics are crucial to success in mathematics, and we will be laying a strong foundation that will help students prepare for the harder material in the future. We will also begin to look at math through social justice and real-world lens.

2nd Quarter: Students will continue to learn (or review) material that is typically taught in middle school. We will begin to transition into Algebra by working with algebraic and verbal expressions during the second quarter, solving equations, and solving inequalities during the second quarter. These three units are the key to Algebra and all other High School math courses.

3rd Quarter: Students will learn about functions, particularly linear functions. Students will be able to graph and write equations for all types of linear functions and inequalities. Students will also work with systems of equations and inequalities.

4th Quarter: Students will learn about monomials, polynomials, quadratic functions, factoring, and working with radicals. This quarter will cover the hardest material and most likely be the “newest” material for the students.

Curriculum / Standards:

This course will be taught to district standards and district curriculum. The Juneau School District curricular information may be reviewed using the Juneau School District website under the *District – Teaching and Learning Support – Curriculum* at <http://www.juneauschools.org>. The NEW Alaska State Standards can be found on the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development website: <http://www.eed.state.ak.us/standards/>.

Grading:

Grading will follow the policy adopted by the Juneau School District Board of Education (Board Policy # 6146.7R). As per board policy, semester grades represent the cumulative progress of students.

A = 90% - 100%

B = 80% - 89%

C = 70% - 79%

D = 60% - 69%

F = 0% - 60%

“INC” = Incomplete

Grades will be calculated based on total points earned. Below is a description of each category and how many points they will be worth

Tests (100 points each):

There will be 2 to 3 tests per quarter. Students will be allowed to make test corrections during tutoring hours to raise their test grades. Students will be able to make corrections on their tests up until the next unit test is given.

Quizzes (50 – 75 points each):

Several quizzes will be given for each unit. The majority of quizzes will be **open notes**, but there will be a time limit for the quizzes. Occasionally pop quizzes will be given that will assess students' understanding at the moment. Pop quizzes will only be worth 10 – 25 points.

Homework/Classwork (5 – 10 points each):

Homework will be assigned 3 to 4 times a week. During the 1st semester, time in class will be provided to work on the assignment. Starting 2nd semester, there will not be as much time allocated for working on homework in class. Homework will be checked for completion (with work shown), and questions will be gone over in class. If you come into class with questions from Homework, it will be your responsibility to write the questions on the Homework Questions Board (or in the chatbox when logging into zoom). The majority of the work done in class will also be graded.

Notebooks (20 – 45 points each):

Students will be responsible for keeping an interactive notebook. This notebook can be used on quizzes and will be graded during each test. The notebook will be graded on completion, organization, and neatness. This notebook is an excellent tool to help students with their homework and study for tests. We will be using the notebook as a review and summary tool weekly.

Projects (25 – 100 points each):

There may be projects assigned throughout the year. When a project is assigned a rubric will be provided for the project's expectations. Students will have time to work on projects in class and be required to work on them outside of class.

Extra Credit (5 – 10 points each):

Extra credit will be provided throughout the year. Students need to complete the extra credit when given because extra credit will NOT be given at the end of the semester. Extra credit opportunities will also be provided occasionally during tutoring sessions.

PowerSchool is our system used to display grades and work progress. I am committed to updating student records bimonthly at a minimum, recognizing the importance of a live-time feedback system for parents and students. Please ensure that you AND your student have access information to use this system in partnership with me. Grades in Canvas will NOT be accurate. ALWAYS go to powerschool for your most up to date grade information.

Late/Make-up Work Policy and Procedures:

Late work will be accepted, but points will be taken off for being late. **Assignments from a chapter will not be accepted after that chapter test.** When making up late work, students will be required to come in for Enrichment, Lunch, or tutoring to make up the assignments.

Resources/Extra Help:

Tutoring sessions are provided 2 to 3 days per week. Students and parents are also encouraged to visit the class' website, www.msrazormath.com . The website will include videos to help students and parents understand the material covered in class and other links to websites that can provide more support. Students will also be given access to the Big Ideas Algebra 2 learning website which will have additional practice and support.

Tutoring Times

During the year, the tutoring times may change due to other circumstances. Students and parents will be aware of the tutoring time change through the weekly tutoring schedule in the room and announcements made in class. If the times below do not work for your schedule, we can make arrangements for a time that works for both of us. Below is a list of tutoring times:

Mondays:	8:30 - 9:10
Wednesdays:	Enrichment and 3:45 - 4:30
Thursdays:	Enrichment and 3:45 - 4:30

Weekly tutoring schedule will be posted on the classroom door. Students should understand that if there is a sub, there will **NOT** be tutoring that day. In the spring, tutoring times could be reduced because I will be coaching softball.

I will make every effort to respond to e-mail or phone messages within one school day. I will do my best to make students aware of my daily schedule and provide extra assistance when needed (see tutoring hours above). Students and parents are encouraged to make appointments ahead of time to ensure that I am available.

Behavioral Expectations:

Class Rules

1. Show respect to all people.
2. Show respect for other people's property.
3. Talk at appropriate times and use appropriate language.
4. Bring all the needed materials to class.
5. Be seated and ready to begin when the bell rings.
6. Obey all school rules.

Please note: Students are expected to adhere to JDHS policies, as outlined in the Student Handbook, at all times. Classroom policies may include more specific requirements, but they cannot be relaxed beyond the minimums outlined in the Student Handbook.

Consequences of Misbehavior:

1. Verbal Warning
2. Student/Teacher Conference
3. Parent Contact
4. Detention with me
5. Referral

Please note: Any action that endangers others, seriously interferes with the learning process, or is significantly disrespectful to staff or students may result in immediate removal from the classroom and/or direct referral to an administrator, thus by-passing above consequences.

Food and Drink in Class:

ONLY water will be allowed in class this year. It needs to be in a closable container/bottle.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY— (From the JDHS Student Handbook):

Academic dishonesty or “cheating” does not allow for any type of true analysis and is not tolerated. Cheating includes, but is not limited to

1. Procuring, possessing, using, or distributing tests, quizzes, answer keys, teacher manuals, teacher textbooks and similar materials;
2. Any attempt to tamper with or alter a teacher's record or grades;
3. Representing the work of others as one's own work, whether the materials are plagiarized from another student, a published work or some other source, such as an Internet site.
4. Making use of notes or other memory aids during testing, except for those notes a teacher specifically authorizes for student use during a particular test or quiz, and;
5. Obtaining or offering unauthorized information regarding tests or assignments.

The ***academic penalty*** for all parties involved in cheating is a zero or failing grade for any copied or plagiarized assignment, exam, or quiz. Students will not be allowed to make-up the work. Also, the ***disciplinary penalty*** for cheating may include an office referral for disciplinary action. Possession and/or unauthorized distribution of testing materials or altering a teacher's records call for severe disciplinary consequences. **Repeat offenses could result in loss of credit for an entire course.**

Electronic Devices Guidelines:

Cell phones, iPods, CD players, and other electronic devices are to be turned off and out of sight during class unless the teacher has given specific permission for their use. If an item is confiscated for violation of class rules, it may be retrieved from the teacher on the first offense. For subsequent offenses, the item will be turned over to an administrator for retrieval.

Ms. Razor's Bring your Device Guidelines:

1. Earbuds and headphones are not allowed unless permitted, Ms. Razor.
2. When you are given permission to listen to music, it may NOT be videos or movies.
3. Device must remain in your bag, pocket, or on your desk (not in your lap).
4. If you are using your device at inappropriate times, it will be taken and turned into the office.
5. If devices become a distraction, the class will lose this privilege.
6. **NO:** gaming, social media, and taking pictures and/or videos of others without their consent.
7. Additional guidelines can be added by Ms. Razor when the need occurs.

PLEASE NOTE THAT EACH ACADEMIC/DISCIPLINE PLAN REQUIRES A SIGNATURE TO BE RETURNED TO EACH TEACHER. SIGNATURES ARE BEING COLLECTED WITH A GOOGLE FORM. A PAPER SIGNATURE FORM CAN BE PROVIDED UPON REQUEST.

We ask parents AND students to sign their academic discipline plan using the google form links below.

CHOICE Pre-Algebra Parent Signature Link: <https://forms.gle/NvzgcbLoSHVjSYjF8> **HERE**

CHOICE Pre-Algebra Student Signature Link: <https://forms.gle/eWEGQqMZuu5KXbqE8>
HERE

PROUD to be Crimson Bears; preparing lifelong learners in a challenging and inclusive environment.
Personalized, Resilient, Optimistic, Unified, Diverse.