

Geometry Course Information

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Welcome to Geometry! Geometry is different from other math classes because it requires more visualization and application than you may have experienced previously. This doesn't mean it will be more difficult, but it may require more effort to be successful. It is important that you keep up in geometry as the concepts build upon each other (note: this is true for all math classes). We will work in groups of two: these groups will be determined by me and change after each test. Your partner and you will take cooperative quizzes and will receive the same grade as discussed below. Because of this, it is imperative that you stay on task, work hard in class, and help one another.

Required work:

You will be expected to keep a notebook in this class as well as complete homework assignments, quizzes, and tests.

Notebook: Your notebook will contain almost all the work you do for this class. Review your notes frequently when completing homework and preparing for quizzes/tests. YOU MAY USE your notebook on MOST quizzes and tests. If you are absent from school, you will want to copy your partner's notes and make up the homework as quickly as possible.

Homework: Homework will be corrected every day and no credit will be given if no work is shown. This means you must copy diagrams as well. Homework will be corrected at the beginning of class and will be marked late if it is not on your desk when I come to record it. Your grade will be based upon completion and effort (5 pts./assignment).

Quizzes: Some quizzes will be completed with a partner. Group members may assist each other during these quizzes and exchange papers to check for mistakes. There will also be individual quizzes and quizzes which require you to read your text.

Weekly Quizzes: You will have a weekly quiz that contains review problems from past math classes and problem solving questions to develop and enhance your critical thinking skills.

Common Core Quizzes: These quizzes are designed to help keep you on track to learn all the vital skills required to be successful in both Geometry and your future math classes. You must score AT LEAST 80% for these to count. Common core quizzes may be retaken. You are welcome to come in for help or to view the videos on the website.

Tests: Tests will be completed independently. Projects will also count as test points. Each chapter will have a test and some may have a project as well.

Final Exams: There will be a final exam for each semester that makes up 15% of your semester grade.

Your grade is determined by:

General quizzes and weekly quizzes will each count for 10% of your grade while homework and common core quizzes each count 5% for a total of 30%. Tests will make up the remaining 70%. Tests and common core quizzes may be retaken. Grades will be posted to your Skyward account on the school's website and will be regularly updated. You may also ask me questions about your grade.

Information on test retakes: Before retaking a test, you will need to come in for some assistance and complete a review sheet. I will be available for help before school, at lunch, and after school unless

school responsibilities make me unavailable. I encourage you to retake tests as it can and will improve your grade dramatically.

Scoring of retakes: Your score on the retake will be the average of your two scores or 40% of the points above 80, whichever is higher. *If you score less than 60% the first time, you must take the average of the two scores.*

Grading scale: We will use the standard school grading scale.

Cheating: Anyone caught cheating or helping someone else cheat will receive a zero for that work. Cheating/academic misconduct is a serious offense and will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

Makeup work:

A chart listing the assignments for the week can be found in the classroom. Class notes, videos, and assignments can also be found online. When you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out the assignment, complete it, turn it in, and then pick it up from the return basket. All makeup homework for a unit is due two days after the unit test. Deadlines for retakes and make-ups will be set as the end of the grading period approaches.

Guidelines/Expectations

In addition to the rules established by the school, this class will have one basic, additional rule regarding behavior: RESPECT. This means you must show respect for each other, yourselves, myself, and the education process in which we are involved. This also means you will respect the physical property within the classroom; namely, the computer hardware and software, desks, chairs, etc.

Some ideas of what respect means:

- Only positive comments made to fellow classmates (constructive criticism is allowed: there is a big difference between respectful, productive discourse and bullying)
- No profanity
- No cell phones (unless you are using it to watch teacher-posted videos)
- One person speaks at a time and I (the teacher) can decide who that is
- Raise your hand and wait to be called on to speak
- Be in your seat ready to learn when the bell rings
- Leave only when dismissed by me (not the bell); do not stand around or crowd the door
- Be committed to trying your best (no heads on desks, talking, sleeping, etc.)
- Work productively – on math – for the entire period (one-minute rule)
- Etc.

In short, be a good person, try your best, and do the right thing.

As the school rules state you may not eat or drink in class (except for water).

Deciding not to follow this set of rules will generally have the following consequences in the order given:

1. Warning
2. Detention/parent phone call
3. Detention/parent phone call
4. Referral to office

I reserve the right to skip any or all the steps listed above depending on the severity of the action.

What you can expect from me

- I will respect you as an individual
- I will be available to provide extra help before school, at lunch, and/or after school (unless school responsibilities make me unavailable)
- I will take the time to answer your questions, and I will respect where you are in the learning process
- I will be at school whenever physically possible and I will be prepared to teach
- I will correct and return tests and quizzes promptly
- I will do all I possibly can to help you learn the material and thus be successful
- I will communicate frequently with you and your parents about your success in this class
- I will be open to your feedback on how to be a more effective educator

We can only be successful in this course if we all respect one another and are willing to work together. If you have questions about the material or structure of the classroom, please do not hesitate to ask. I will not be offended by respectful, constructive criticism, and I will try to justify my ideas with research and/or theory. It is my job to help you, the student, effectively learn the material. As a student, you must be an advocate for yourself to ensure that you are successful. Math isn't always the easiest subject, but with hard work and perseverance anyone and everyone can be successful. If you need something, please ask.

By signing below, you are verifying that you have read and understand the course information sheet in its entirety. Information regarding required work and grading is subject to change, but any alterations will be communicated thoroughly. Please feel free to leave a message for me, Mr. Ditter, at the school or write a note if you have any questions.

Student

Parent/Guardian