

# ALGEBRA SYLLABUS

## TEACHER:

Mr. Gant  
Room 205  
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email: rgant@osd.wednet.edu

## TEXTBOOK:

Glencoe Algebra I (2003) ISBN# 0078250838

## COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides the foundation for other mathematics courses and applications. Algebra is a system or language in which symbols are used to represent phenomenon in a manner that can be manipulated for application. Students who successfully complete this course will be able to utilize algebra to graph, solve, represent, derive, and make predictions from the abstract and/or physical world.

## DAILY NECESSITIES:

Every day you will need to bring the following:

- Textbook
- Math notebook or binder
- Notebook paper
- Graph paper
- Scientific calculator (TI-30X IIS is a great one, but any TI will do)
- Pencils
- Red pen
- Highlighter
- Backpack

## CLASSROOM POLICIES:

- Complete all work on time.
- Bring only daily necessities into the classroom (**no food or drink**).
- Keep your work area clean and free from obstructions.
- Utilize academic skills necessary for learning technical material.
- Engage in a rigorous course of study individually and as a group.

## **CLASSROOM PROCESSES:**

Quizzes are completed in class during the first five minutes of class time. Homework is due on a daily basis. Notebooks are reviewed on a chapter basis. Tests occur at various times throughout the semester.

The items listed under daily necessities are sufficient to complete our work during the class period. Items brought into the classroom other than those listed should remain secured in a backpack. Backpacks may be placed under desk or in a designated area in the classroom.

Small pieces of paper, staples, paperclips, pencils, papers, can make your work area untidy for yourself and others that utilize the same workspace in different classes. Please clean up after yourself. Custodial staff does an amazing job keeping so many parts of our school looking great, do your part for your work area.

Academic skills necessary for learning technical material are extremely valuable. Practice and/or refine these skills by reading the technical text presented, while determining the relevance of the information read. What are the most important points in the text and what meaning is made about them?

Individual study of mathematics occurs inside and outside the classroom, while group study formally occurs as a class during the scheduled class period. At times work will be completed in small/large groups, other times work will be completed individually. All work is designed to build an increasing foundational, yet developing understanding of mathematics, its applications, and ability to model our physical reality.

## **CLASSROOM PROCEDURES:**

Work that is not completed on time will not receive credit. In the case of excused absences, time is allowed on a day for day basis to complete work. Retakes occur on a limited basis and only after parental/guardian involvement; student, parent/guardian, and teacher should all determine why a retake is necessary, what can be done to support the learning process, and under what circumstances the retake should be offered.

Get out the things you will need for class at the beginning of class. A pencil/paper to take the daily quiz and the homework assignment form the day prior are essential. Anything that needs to be brought with you to class that is not listed as a daily necessity needs to be left in your backpack.

The last few minutes of class are usually... so. much. longer. than the rest of the minutes of class. This is a great time to erase pencil smudges off desks, and to clean up those little pieces of paper that mysteriously appear around desks. It is okay if you clean up a pencil smudge created by somebody else or pick up and throw away a few stray remnants of paper; you are doing a good deed.

Read your textbook! Find the relevant information quickly by looking for bold print, blocked text, and diagrams. Utilize different reading strategies specifically suited for academic/technical text.

In class we have the opportunity to engage with group discussions and with different understandings of a concept or method in which to solve a problem. Outside of class we are left to our own understanding, unless we find a small group of others to work with. You are very much encouraged to do just this, but your work is your work and needs to be represented as such on quizzes and assessments.

## ATTENDANCE:

Please see student handbook for school policy regarding attendance.

[http://olympia.osd.wednet.edu/information/student\\_policies\\_\\_codes/attendance/attendance](http://olympia.osd.wednet.edu/information/student_policies__codes/attendance/attendance)

## GRADING:

Notebooks: 10% Homework: 20% Quizzes: 30% Tests: 40%

Grading scale is as follows: A+ 100%, A 99-93%, A- 92-90%, B+ 89-87%, B 86- 83%, B- 82-80%, C+ 79-77%, C 76-73%, C- 72-70%, D 69-60%, F Below 60%

## NOTEBOOKS:

To score all of the points each section of notes must include Vocabulary Definitions, Key Concepts/Know-It Notes, and Worked Examples. Take good notes, so that you have a clear and concise representation of the information presented in the technical text. Vocabulary words in bold print, key concepts, know-it notes, diagrams, and examples should all be included in your notebook. Notebooks are checked on a weekly basis.

### Notebook Scores:

100% - 90%	complete:	4 points
89% - 75%	complete:	3 points
75% - 50%:	complete:	2 points
less than 50%	complete:	1 point

## HOMEWORK:

Each homework assignment is worth 4 points. In order to receive credit for homework, all work must be neatly shown and completed for each question assigned. Homework is due the next class meeting after it is assigned unless otherwise instructed. **Late work will not be accepted.** Absent work will be awarded full credit if the absence is excused and the work is turned in within the same number of days as the absence.

Homework will be checked on a daily basis, but not always turned in. Utilize time in class to work on the daily assignment. Time outside of class should be used to finish assignments

### **Homework Scores:**

100% - 90%:	4 points
89% - 75%:	3 points
75% - 50%:	2 points
less than 50%:	1 point

## **QUIZZES/TESTS:**

Quizzes occur on a daily basis. Tests occur at the end of each unit of instruction. Quizzes and tests will need to be rescheduled with Mr. Gant in the event of an excused absence.

There is a daily quiz posted on the board at the beginning of each class. Begin the daily quiz as soon as possible. You will have up to five minutes after the tardy bell to finish the quiz before you are required to turn it in. The daily quiz gives you an opportunity to demonstrate your learning and to get individual feedback on your work from your teacher (show your work... so I can see what you are doing).

### **Quiz Scores:**

Three quiz questions correct with work shown:	4 points
Two quiz questions correct with work shown:	3 points
One quiz question correct with work shown:	2 points
Work shown for all three quiz questions:	1 point

## **ADVANCEMENT:**

Students must maintain a passing grade to stay in the class second semester. A minimum of a C range grade at the end of 2nd semester is required for advancement to the next mathematics sequence level.

## **OTHER:**

If you need to go to the restroom, office, nurse... just ask. Remember to fill out the log and take the restroom pass with you. Sign back into class when you return.

If you know that you are going to be absent let me know as soon as possible so that accommodations can be made for your excused absence.

Classroom policies, procedures, and processes are at times modified to suit the learning environment.

