

Algebra Disclosure Statement

Mr. Armstrong

Overview: The Algebra Curriculum is from the College Preparatory Program (CPM). This involves students working cooperatively in groups to solve meaningful and engaging problems. Students will complete guided investigations that explore mathematical ideas and then practice them in their work.

Guidelines for Working in Study Teams:

1. You are responsible for your own behavior
2. You must try to help anyone in your study team who asks.
3. Only when ALL study team members have the same question you may ask the teacher for help.
4. You must use study team voices.

The Only Classroom Rule: This rule covers it all. This rule covers the Salt Lake Arts Academy's focus for the learning community of appreciation, respect, and safety.

You can do anything you want in this class provided it does not cause a problem for anyone else.

I Run a Love and Logic Classroom:

Key points:

1. I will treat you with respect, so you know how to treat me.
2. If you cause a problem, I will ask you to solve it.
3. If you feel something is unfair, whisper to me, "I'm not sure that's fair," and we will talk.

Materials Needed In Class Everyday:

1. 1 inch binder
2. Lots of loose leaf paper
3. 1/4 inch graph paper
4. TI 34 II Calculator- may be purchased in the office for \$15
5. Pencils, 1-2 colored pencils
6. CPM book
7. Composition book- used as a toolkit/ journal
8. 6 inch ruler
9. Zippered plastic pouch for binder (hole punched)

At Home Materials:

A large box or accordian file to keep all math work. This comes in hand especially at the end of the term when students say they completed work but I do not have record of it. Also, a ruler (English and Metric) is needed. A compass and protractor are recommended.

Assignment Heading:

Please put heading in TOP, RIGHT corner of paper.

Name (first and last)

Date

Assignment

Assessment:

1. Classwork/ Homework (40% of grade): You will receive an assignment everyday. Each assignment is worth 10 points. You must show all work. Some problems require answers to be written in sentences. You check your work with a green pen the next day. I check for completeness, process, and effort on assignments. Late assignments will be accepted, however points will be deducted from grade.
Homework help is available on-line at www.hotmath.com
2. Tests, Quizzes, and Projects (50% of grade): Tests will be given out after each chapter. There will be occasional quizzes and projects that may involve art.
3. Gold Medal Problems (10% of grade): You will be solving complex problems. You will be evaluated on your ability to show, explain, and justify your work and thoughts. Save all your work, including what does not work in order to write about the processes you used to reach your answer.

Completion of a Gold Medal Problem includes four parts:

PROBLEM STATEMENT: State the problem clearly in your own words so that anyone reading your paper will understand the problem you intend to solve. You may also create a parallel story. Be creative and have fun.

PROCESS AND SOLUTIONS: Describe in detail your thinking and reasoning as you worked from start to finish. Explain your solution and how you know it is correct. Add diagrams when it helps your explanation. Include things that did not work and changes you made along the way. If you did not complete this problem, describe what you do know and where and why you are stuck.

REFLECTION: Reflect on your learning and your reaction to the problem. What mathematics did you learn from it? What did you learn about your math problem solving strategies? Is the problem similar to any other problems you have done before? If yes, how?

ATTACHED WORK: Include all your work and notes. Your scratch work is important because it is a record of your thinking. Do not throw anything away.

At the end of each term students will receive a detailed grade report and their grade will be defined by:

Academic Rubric:

5= Homework is complete and of high quality; excellent classroom participation and work quality; strong test performance; student is showing progress and is stretching beyond his/her ability.

3= Most homework is completed; classroom participation is acceptable; quality of work is average; test performance is average; in general, student does not go beyond the basic requirements.

1= Incomplete homework; minimal classroom participation; poor quality work; poor test performance.

Citizenship Rubric:

5= Shows responsibility for materials and homework; demonstrates exemplary behavior while traveling/working; actively stays involved while respecting others' space; student is a thoughtful and willing participant.

3= Comes prepared and ready to learn most of the time; teacher must redirect student from time to time; works effectively with others most of the time; occasionally has trouble respecting others' space and need for learning.

1= Forgets/loses materials or homework; doesn't listen to directions; bothers others; acts silly/uncooperative.

I am looking forward to a great year as your teacher!