

Miss Fast

**TEXTBOOK:** We will utilize a variety of text resources, however the following book is the main textbook used.

- Malloy, Carol, Rhonda J. Molix-Bailey, Jack Price, and Teri Willard. <u>Pre-Algebra</u>. New York: Glencoe McGraw-Hill, 2008.
- **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This is an introductory level course which emphasizes basic algebraic skills. Students will study numbers, expressions, equalities and inequalities. Additional topics include graphing, formulas, and probability and statistics. This course provides the student an opportunity to develop reasoning and deductive skills by applying them to the understanding of the basic structure of algebra. Topics include: number systems from natural to real (including irrational), exponents, factoring, graphing and problem solving.

# MATERIALS NEEDED: Textbook

Notebook (3 ring binder at least 1 ½ inches thick) Tabbed Dividers (Notes, Homework, Quizzes/etc.) Pencil Red Pen Loose-leaf notebook paper (no fringe)

## **GRADE CATEGORIES:**

INDIVIDUAL/GROUP WORK/NOTEBOOK: This includes and homework, worksheets, participation, group work, in-class work, etc. The notebook includes all papers returned and all notes from the instructor (organization and neatness are a big must). This category will account for **40%** of the overall grade.

TESTS/QUIZZES: This includes any type of quiz (pop, announced, notebook, homework, etc.) and unit exams. This category accounts for **50%** of the overall grade.

CUMULATIVE SEMESTER EXAM/MAP: The semester exams will be cumulative over anything that is associated with the class including note, reading material, homework, explorations, etc. The exams will account for **10%** of your overall grade.

## **GRADING SCALE:**

95-100	Α	83-86	В	73-76	С	63-66	D
90-94	<b>A-</b>	80-82	<b>B-</b>	70-72	C-	60-62	D-
87-89	<b>B</b> +	77-79	C+	67-69	D+	0-59	F

**LATE WORK:** Late work is NOT accepted. However, if you choose <u>not</u> to complete an assignment, then you will <u>not</u> be prepared for the next lesson and/or exam. Therefore, not being prepared only hurts you. BE RESPONSIBLE AND DO YOUR WORK!!!

# **TOPICS TO BE COVERED:**

Algebra and Integers Algebra and Rational Numbers Linear Equations, Inequalities and Functions Applying Algebra to Geometry Extending Algebra to Statistics and Polynomials

The Grade Level Expectations (GLE's) required by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) will be covered throughout this course.

# SIMPLE CLASS RULES:

- 1) Do your work and be prepared.
- 2) Respect everyone at all times.
- 3) Follow the Instructors directions.

**BE PRESENT AND ON TIME!** You are considered tardy if you are not in your seat and ready to begin work when the bell *begins* to ring! If you are absent for an excusable reason (as determined by the office), I will follow the policy as described in the student handbook.

## **INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE:**

It is inevitable when studying mathematics that you will encounter a topic or concept that will be more difficult to grasp. If you ever run into this situation, don't get discouraged.

- If you have a question about a concept while in class, ask me or a fellow classmate.
- If you are at home and get stuck on a problem, stop for a while and go back to it after taking a break. You'll be amazed at how much your brain can accomplish if you **DON'T FORCE IT!!**
- If this doesn't work, ask your parents, a friend, or a classmate. They will often have a different perspective on the problem.
- **ASK ME!!** I will be at school at 8:00 a.m. and will be happy to help you during this time. You may even find there might be another student or two present that you can work with! Let me know if you need to schedule a different time.

Regular attendance is extremely important to being successful in a math class, especially this one! Be prepared and prompt! ALL WORK IS TO BE COMPLETED IN PENCIL!

I am very excited about this course and I hope you are too! I look forward to a great year of learning and fun.

Miss Fast