

Mrs. McCarty's Geometry B Course and Behavioral Syllabus 2013-14

Course Description/Overview

Welcome to Geometry! A full-year credit in Geometry is required for high school graduation. Geometry is everywhere in our world, and I am committed to helping you see and appreciate the beauty of it. This course will emphasize abstract and logical thinking through inductive and deductive reasoning. Lines, planes, polygons, circles, spheres, and other three-dimensional figures will be used for representing and solving a variety of problems. We will be utilizing technology frequently as problem-solving and learning tools.

Course Content

- Special Right Triangles
- Right Triangle Trigonometry
- Area
- Surface Area and Volume
- Transformations
- Circles

Course Materials

You will need to bring the following materials with you to class each day:

- Good Attitude
- Textbook
- Pencils, erasers, and colored pens or pencils
- Notebook
- Calculator

Course Policies

Absences and Makeup Work: Because of the sequential nature of mathematics, for a student to be successful and to learn he/she must be in class daily. Students may download weekly snapshots/calendars from my website. Assignments and notes can be emailed to a student during an absence if the student contacts me. When you return from an absence, you are responsible for the following:

- Turning in any homework that was due the day(s) of your absence
- Picking up any missed handouts and homework assignment(s) from the makeup folder and updating your notebook with notes
- Turning in your makeup work

According to school policy, you have three days to turn in assignments missed due to an excused absence; if the absence is unexcused, you may not make up the missed work. If you have missed more than one day, you should turn in at least one makeup assignment as well as the current assignment each day until you are caught up. If you are absent on a test day, you may make up the test/quiz on club day during club time, before school or after school in ESS. Make-up tests must be taken outside of regular class time. All make-up work must be turned in before the final exam is taken.

Class Participation: You will be called upon at random; discussion is encouraged when concepts are not understood. At times, we will all be geometry teachers. Therefore, be willing to share your ideas with others and to support your reasoning to help each other understand new ways to solve problems. In other words, participate fully in all class activities.

Homework Policy:

- Homework will be assigned almost every school day (including over weekends) in order to allow you to explore and practice what you are learning.
- Doing your homework consistently is *essential* in order to achieve success in math. Homework is given for the purpose of learning new concepts and for practicing old concepts.
- Homework is due the following school day at the beginning of the period unless otherwise specified. Every homework assignment will be checked for completeness.
- Homework will be graded leniently. Credit is *not denied* for errors committed in the work.
- Late assignments are worth half credit.
- No homework or make-up work will be accepted after test day.
- Copied assignments will receive a zero.

Grading Policy/Assessment

Progress Reports: Every 2–3 weeks, you will be advised of your progress and given a partial grade. The report must be returned on the due date and signed by a parent or guardian.

Types of Assessments: Quizzes will be given periodically. Tests will be given at the end of each unit. Unit tests make up a large portion of the trimester grade. Students may request to retake unit tests. Retesting will occur within a two-week period of the original date; retests must occur outside of regular class time. The score on the retake will be averaged with the original quiz/test score.

Grade Distribution: Two primary kinds of grades are earned in this class.

- *Daily Assignments* (40%) – These grades you achieve in process of learning class material (including class discussions, class work, homework, notebook checks, and vocabulary assignments).
- *Tests/Quizzes* (60%) – These are grades you achieve that show knowledge and mastery of material (including exams, quizzes, projects).

20% of the final trimester grade will be determined by the final exam. Extra credit can be obtained by working problems on the board.

Extra Credit: Extra credit can be obtained by working problems on the board or creating a digital video in which the student teaches the viewer about a concept covered in class. For example, the video could teach the viewer how to use right triangle trigonometry to find the missing side of a right triangle. The topic must be teacher approved. The video must be accurate and appropriate. Students must be able to prove that they made the video. No credit will be awarded for plagiarism. Videos must be emailed to me at (holly.mccarty@anderson.kyschools.us) before the day of the final exam. Students may earn up to 10 extra credit points for each video. Two students may split the extra credit if they make a video together

Course Procedures

Course Format: Students are expected to be in their seats working on the bell ringer when the tardy bell sounds. The bell ringer may cover automaticity, review, or ACT questions. Each class lesson will consist of notes, practicing new skills, participating in class activities, and correcting homework. Students may use two hall passes per week. Students are not allowed to congregate at the door during the last 5 minutes of class. Students must remain seated until the dismissal bell sounds. In addition, students are expected to listen to the morning and afternoon announcements. If a student is disruptive during the announcements, a discipline referral will be issued.

Additional Information

Extra Help: Get extra help when you need it. I am usually available after school on Mondays through Thursday from 3:10 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. I am available before school every morning from 7:20 a.m. – 7:45 a.m. Students can attend tutoring during the school day on Tuesdays and Thursdays during Bearcat 25. ESS is offered after school Tuesday-Thursday in the media center. Teachers and peer tutors are available to help.

Personal Statement

- Solving problems involves asking questions and taking risks.
- Good students seek help sooner than later.
- Try all problems on an assignment. Do not stop at the first one you do not understand. “If you don’t know how to solve a problem, do what you know how to do.” In other words, “TRY SOMETHING.”
- Set goals every week and recognize your accomplishments.
- Bring a positive attitude.
- Be proactive about studying. Use outside resources such as textbooks, other math teacher, peers, older siblings, and websites. Any and all of these strategies can help you understand the concepts we will be studying more thoroughly.

*Each policy may be modified if the need arises during the course of the trimester/year.

Contact Information:

School telephone/voice mail: (502)839-5118

Best time to reach me directly: 4th period 12:16 – 1:27

School e-mail address: Holly.McCarty@anderson.kyschools.us

Website: <http://www.anderson.kyschools.us/HollyMcCarty.aspx>

Remind 101: To receive reminder messages about assignments and information for Geometry B via text, text @16d281 to (502) 517-4349. You can opt-out of messages at anytime by replying, 'unsubscribe @16d281'.

Information about accessing Infinite Campus Parent Portal:

<http://www.acschools.net/ParentPortalInformation.aspx>

Math Resources – For Parents and Students

Does your child need some extra help and examples with a specific math topic? The following websites may help:

- *www.khanacademy.org – You have to create an account, but it's free. There are short videos (boring but good) on every math topic imaginable.
- *www.purplemath.com – Algebra lessons over a ton of topics; includes videos and written examples
- *www.freemathhelp.com – text and video lessons on a variety of math topics. You must register, but it's free
- *www.mathisfun.com – extra practice and instruction on Pre-Algebra and Algebra topics. Also includes a tutoring forum, puzzles and teaching games.
- *www.brightstorm.com – video lessons for Algebra through Calculus topics. It also includes ACT prep.
- *www.math-play.com – games on a variety of topics. Great extra practice!

Here are some apps that may also be useful:

- *Math Ref – includes helpful formulas, figures, tips, and examples of equations and concepts. It also includes example problems and solutions (\$0.99)
- *Wolfram Alpha – a computational knowledge engine (not just math) that will give solutions, graphs, and explanations. (\$2.99)
- *GeometrIQ – a Geometry picture game over common topics. It's fun! (free)
- *DragonBox – practice with solving equations in a form of a fun game (\$5.99 – and worth it)
- *Math Sprint – geared toward younger kids but helps with multiplication and mental math. (free)

Is your child ready to prepare for the ACT or PLAN test? Here are some study options

- *www.freerice.com – ACT prep; not all is math but some is
- *PLAN Test: There are sample test questions at the bottom of the page.
<http://www.act.org/planstudent/tests/>
- *ACT Test: There are sample questions for each subject area to the left side of the page.
<http://www.actstudent.org/sampletest/>
- *COMPASS Test: <http://www.act.org/compass/sample/>
- *ACT Practice Test online: <http://www.4tests.com/exams/examdetail.asp?eid=13>
- *ACT Practice and Tutorial: Create an account and then work through a tutorial before you work practice questions. <https://www.number2.com/>
- ***Note – If your child does not know their multiplication facts, please find time to make sure they memorize these. Flashcards and apps (just search for multiplication facts) are both good options. It's tough to learn Algebra and Geometry without strong multiplication and division skills.

Mrs. McCarty's Geometry B Syllabus Signature Sheet 2013-14

Signature(s): Discuss this course and behavioral syllabus with your parent(s) or guardian(s). Please sign and return the last page to me by **(Friday, March 14th, 2014)**. I am looking forward to working with you this year.

I, _____ (Student), have read, understand, and accept the Geometry B syllabus and course expectations.

I, _____ (Parent/Guardian), have read, understand, and accept the Geometry B syllabus and course expectations.

(Student Signature)

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

Do you access to parent portal?

☐ Yes

☐ No