

Algebra I Syllabus

Mrs. Nelson & Mrs. VanHamme, Room 321
2018– 2019 School Year

Course Description: This course includes the study of first & second-degree equations & inequalities (solving & graphing), relations & functions, systems of equations, irrational numbers, & exponential functions.

Grading Percentages

Tests & Quizzes*	70%
Homework	15%
Notebooks	15%

* quizzes are weighted 50% of a test grade

MCHS Grading Scale

100 – 93 A	92 – 90 A-	89 – 87 B+
86 – 83 B	82 – 80 B-	79 – 77 C+
76 – 73 C	72 – 70 C-	69 – 67 D+
66 – 63 D	62 – 60 D-	59 & below E

Semester Grade: The semester grade is comprised of 80% of the average of the two quarters & 20% of the final exam grade. Students overall GPA is calculated using semester grades, not quarters.

Notebooks: Notes will be assigned as homework. Students are expected to watch, listen, & write down all notes & examples completed in the recorded lesson. Notes will be graded on a daily basis on completion. Students that do not have completed notes at the beginning of the class will then use their class time to finish their notes prior to starting the daily assignments.

Students will receive:

- 3 points for completed, on-time notes
- 2 points for late (same day) completed notes
- 1 point for 1 day late completed notes
- 0 points for incomplete notes

Test & Quizzes: It is the responsibility of the student to schedule a time to make-up a test or quiz. **Tests & quizzes must be completed within one week of the original test/quiz day to receive full credit.** Some tests & quizzes may not be made up in which case the next test or quiz will count as double. Testing retakes will be at the discretion of the teacher & are very seldom offered. **ALL** homework for the current chapter must be completed for a student to qualify for a retake. **All points will be lost if a student talks, looks at another's paper, or in any way GIVES or RECEIVES answers during tests & quizzes.** All points will be lost if a cell phone or other electronic device is visible before, during, or after a test, whether or not the student was using the device.

Assignments: It is imperative that **EVERY** assignment is completed to a satisfactory level. For a completed assignment, all the mathematical steps must be shown &/or a **written explanation** in how the problem was solved. An attempt needs to be made on **ALL** problems to be considered complete. Students will receive an incomplete grade for work that is missed, incomplete, or turned in late. Complete & incomplete assignments are determined at the discretion of the teacher.

If a student is absent, it is their responsibility to turn-in any assignments that were due the day of the absence & to receive the appropriate notes & assignments that were missed. The student has 1 day from the day returning for every day absent to complete their missing assignments. (Absent Monday, Due Wednesday - Prefer Tuesday ☺)

Basic Assignment Guidelines: Showing neat, organized, & detailed work is part of the mathematical process & success in mathematics. The work shown demonstrates student's comprehension of the material while the answer tells me that the process is correct.

- Put your name, date, hour, & assignment in the upper right-hand corner of your paper.
- Number problems as you go – do not pre-number.
- Write letters & numbers neatly.
- Work down the paper – not across. It's much easier to follow the reasoning this way. Work that is shown across the page instead of down **WILL NOT** be accepted as a completed assignment.

Assignments will be scored as follows:

- ★ = completed & on-time assignment, worth 5 points.
- = late or incomplete assignment, worth 0 points. **Must be completed!**
- ⊙ = a late or incomplete assignment that has now been completed, worth 3 points. Late assignments will only be accepted for credit **1 day late**.

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT NOTES ARE TAKEN & ASSIGNMENTS ARE COMPLETED DAILY & ON-TIME TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN ALGEBRA I.

Drop Lowest Quiz Grade: As an incentive to complete notes & assignments on a daily basis, we will drop the lowest quiz grade each quarter for those students who have a **90% assignment average & a 90% notebook average** at the end of each quarter. If dropping a lowest quiz grade lowers their overall grade a 5% test bonus will be rewarded instead.

Required Materials

Notebook – A binder, folder, or spiral notebook to be used **only** for Algebra I. A 1-inch 3 ring binder with pockets is preferred.

- **Calculator** - A scientific calculator is required for success in Algebra I. Not all scientific calculators are created equally – some have more functions than others & will not be allowed on certain assessments in which case an alternative calculator will be provided. There will be times that we will be introducing the graphing calculator, however, these calculators will be provided. Students will not be allowed to share calculators during class. This will be considered cheating during a test or quiz which will result in a zero for all students involved. **Cell phone calculators & the TI-89 Calculus graphing calculators are prohibited for use in Algebra I & will be treated as academic dishonesty if used.**

Classroom Expectations: It is our responsibility as your teachers to provide & maintain a safe & effective learning environment. Our teaching style & delivery are structured around the following behavior guidelines:

1. RESPECT – We respect all my students & expect my students to respect each other, their school, & us. Listen quietly while someone in the class is speaking, teacher or student.

2. PREPARATION – Come to class prepared to learn & **on-time**. Bringing your notes, calculator, assignments, & writing utensils to class every day is the first step towards being prepared for class. Students must also be an active listener & participant to be successful in this class.

3. FOCUS – Be an active learner by taking notes before class, following instructions, & asking questions when necessary. Keep all unrelated materials away during class. When time is provided, we expect our students to use this time to work on their assignments.

Electronic Device Policy: The use of cell phones or other electronic devices in our classroom is not permitted unless stated by the teachers. Students will be allowed to take a picture of their book assignments during the last few minutes of class. During this time, all other functions of the electronic device are prohibited.

In addition to these three behavior guidelines, all school rules will apply in our classroom. See your Student Handbook for more information.

To the parent(s) or guardian(s) of our students:

Please take a few minutes to review our syllabus with your son or daughter. We are available to students for extra help during seminar or **by appointment** after school. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free contact.

Jennifer Nelson: jnelson@ecsd.us (810) 676-1965
Katie VanHamme: kvanhamme@ecsd.us (810) 676-1953

Sincerely,
Mrs. Jennifer Nelson
Mrs. Katie VanHamme

Support

To access online textbook & support materials:

Website: go to <http://connected.mcgraw-hill.com>
login using the teacher provided username & password.

Mobile App: **McGraw-Hill ConnectED K-12**
login using the teacher provided username & password.

To access Note Video Files:

go to my website jnelsonmath.weebly.com
click on the Algebra I tab
click on the desired chapter of videos
click on the desired section of notes

Student can also access my note files directly through **YouTube**.



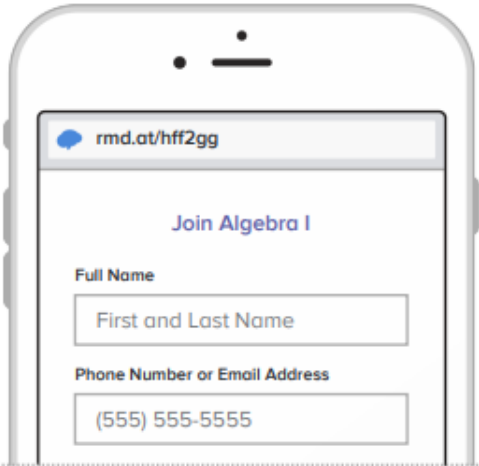
Pick a way to receive messages for **Algebra I**:

A If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/hff2gg

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.



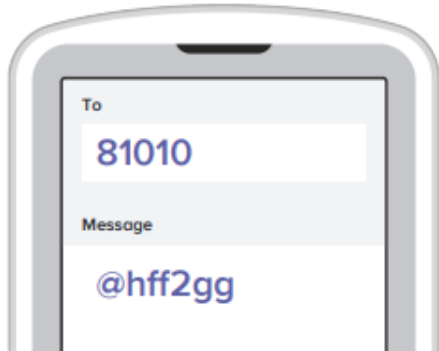
The smartphone mockup displays the Remind app's sign-up interface. At the top, the URL "rmd.at/hff2gg" is shown. Below it, the heading "Join Algebra I" is centered. There are two input fields: "Full Name" with the placeholder text "First and Last Name", and "Phone Number or Email Address" with the placeholder text "(555) 555-5555".

B If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message [@hff2gg](https://www.instagram.com/hff2gg) to the number **81010**.

If you're having trouble with **81010**, try texting [@hff2gg](https://www.instagram.com/hff2gg) to **(810) 355-2217**.

* Standard text message rates apply.



The smartphone mockup shows a text message interface. The "To" field contains the number "81010". The "Message" field contains the text "@hff2gg".

Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/hff2gg on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.