

Precalculus

Course Overview

This course is designed to help students prepare for calculus. During the first semester, students focus on trigonometric functions and vectors. In the second semester students study, matrices, exponential and logarithmic functions, and conic sections. Material learned in this course is often considered a prerequisite for various university programs of study.

Classroom Expectations

Students are expected to follow all school rules written in their student handbook. In particular, students are expected to do the following:

1. *Be Respectful*
2. *Be Punctual*
3. *Be Responsible*

Behavior Policy

If a student chooses not to meet the classroom expectations, then the following steps will be taken to correct the situation.

1. *A verbal warning will be given.*
2. *A one-to-one meeting will take place to resolve the problem.*
3. *The student's parent/guardian will be contacted.*
4. *The student will be referred to an administrator.*

Extreme violations of school rules will result in a student being referred directly to speak with an administrator.

Supplies

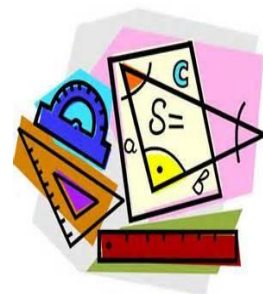
Pencils, a checking pen, a three-ring-binder with dividers, and lined paper are regularly used in this class. It is recommended that students have their own graphing calculator, such as the TI-84+. Graphing calculators are permitted for use on portions of the SAT and for some AP exams. They continue to be useful when the student goes on to college. Donations of hand sanitizer or a box of tissues for classroom use would be greatly appreciated.

Class Website

Students can use their Utica Community Schools account to access **Schoology**. Once there, students can access the class website to obtain daily lessons, assignments, and many other useful links.

Grading Scale

94 – 100%	A
90 – 93%	A-
87 – 89%	B+
83 – 86%	B
80 – 82%	B-
77 – 79%	C+
73 – 76%	C
70 – 72%	C-
67 – 69%	D+
63 – 66%	D
60 – 62%	D-
≤ 59%	F



Grades

Quarter grades are calculated as follows:

Tests/Quizzes:	80%
Homework:	15%
Participation:	5%

Semester grades are computed using the district's 40%-40%-20% plan. In other words, each quarter grade is worth 40% of the semester grade and the remaining 20% is determined by the semester exam.

Absent Work

It is the STUDENT'S responsibility to find out what was missed during an absence. Daily assignments are posted on the class website. Students must check this resource to find out what was assigned. Also, students can check the "Absent File" for extra copies of worksheets, notes, or handouts.

Work can only be made up in the case of an excused absence. Students are given one day for each day of absence to make up any missed work. An *unexcused* absence will result in a score of zero being earned for any work due on the day of the absence. This includes tests. Daily warm-ups are a participation grade that can be made up when missed due to absence.

Preferably, test and quiz make ups will be handled either before or after school so that students do not fall behind on new material. Students who are absent on the review day for a test are expected to take the exam the day they return to school.

Regular class attendance is very important in a math class. It is one of the key ingredients for having a successful school year.

Tutoring

Concepts in Precalculus rely heavily on the student's understanding of previously learned topics. Students should seek help *AS SOON AS POSSIBLE* if they have difficulty with any of these concepts. Counselors can provide further information to obtain a student NHS tutor. A schedule for Titan Time Tutoring will be posted as soon as it becomes available.

Homework

Homework is graded daily for completion. It is very important that students make an honest attempt to complete each assignment. Students are expected to properly label the paper, use a pencil, write out the original problem, and *show all work* to support their answer. Time will be given during class to check the work and go over questions. Work can be turned in one day late for half-credit. Work is not accepted after the one day grace period. Worked out solutions to each of the odd exercises can be found at www.calcchat.com.

Academic Dishonesty

Students are expected to turn in their own original work. Sharing answers to exercises or using unauthorized aids during a test/quiz are serious offenses that will not be tolerated. Students who violate this policy will receive a zero on the offending work.

Parent-Teacher Communication

In an effort to help students be more successful, parents and teachers should work together as a team with open lines of communication. Parents are encouraged to regularly monitor their child's grades and attendance online. Please contact me with any questions or concerns that you may have regarding your child's progress.

Classroom Phone Number:

586-797-2040

E-mail Address

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