

Welcome to Precalculus!

This year will be both exciting and challenging. I am excited to be teaching this course, especially for developing mathematical thinking and reasoning skills that will serve you well regardless of whether you continue studying math-related fields or not. We will challenge each other as we learn and grow to our full potential.

Course Description: The first semester of this course is designed to expand on the subjects taught in Algebra 2. Second semester will introduce the students to Trigonometry including the unit circle, graphing trigonometric functions, solving trigonometric equations, trigonometric identities, and law of sines and cosines.

Classroom Rule: “Be Respectful of Everyone and Everything”

It is my belief that this one rule encompasses everything we need to have a successful year together. By being respectful of others we are attentive listeners when others are speaking. By being respectful of others we honor their right to learn. By being respectful of ourselves we come to class prepared to be an active participant. By being respectful of everything around us we help to maintain the classroom and the school.

Grading: Remember: Teachers do not “give” grades – Students “earn” them!

Grades will be based on a combination of tests, quizzes, in class assignments, projects, and homework.

Grades will be calculated using weighted categories: Tests = 60%; Quizzes & Homework = 20%, and the final is 20%.

The following grading scale will be used to determine letter grades:

90-100% ...A 80-89%...B 70-79%...C below 70%...F

You must ALWAYS SHOW YOUR WORK to receive full credit on any assignment, quiz, or test. Partial credit can be given even if answers are incorrect when work is shown.

Homework

Homework is not busywork. Homework problems have been selected based on prior learning and our work in class, with the purpose of mastering skills learned in class and preparing you for upcoming assessments. You are expected to make a meaningful attempt on every problem assigned and will get full credit if you do, regardless of the correctness of your answers. Spending time with each problem will help you learn the content even if you do not get the correct answer. When you get stuck, look through your class notes, prior homework problems that you have successfully completed, examples in the textbook of a similar problem and solution, and online videos that the publisher or GOHS teachers provide. I DO NOT GRADE YOUR WORK ON WHETHER YOU GET THE RIGHT ANSWER, so do not bother copying the answers from another source – you will not learn the math and will not do well on the assessments. I WANT YOU TO LEARN AND APPLY THE MATHEMATICS BEHIND EVERY PROBLEM. Math is not a spectator sport! Actively participating, reading carefully, and completing all assignments will contribute to success in mathematics.

Homework needs to be clearly labeled or I will not grade it. Each assignment should have the same heading unless it is on a handout. Homework assignments are listed in the notes. We will not necessarily stop taking notes when we get to an assignment. Any time we reach a section of homework in the notes, it is automatically assigned. If your homework or warm-ups are not complete, you will not be eligible to replace a test score for that unit – Incomplete Homework = No Retake

Homework Heading

Assignment Number

Name

Page Number Problem Numbers

Period

Supplies

Pencils, paper, highlighter, and calculator. Recommendations for calculator are as follows:
Texas Instruments TI-30 XS MultiView Scientific (**NOT TI-30Xa**), Casio fx-300ES PLUS

Contact Information:

- The school's phone number is 294-6450 and my extension is 3609. If it is an emergency during the school day, please contact the operator as it is impossible to call directly into the room otherwise.
- To contact me via e-mail use: mcornelius@tvusd.k12.ca.us.
- Class Reminders: Sign up for **Remind** – Text 81010. In the body of the text: **@mrcpc18**

I keep an up to date calendar of the lessons and homework for each day in class. I usually post full homework solutions so that students can look through the problems if they need help doing their assignments. My web site also has links to videos of the math topics we will be covering.

Please take the time to share this with your parents/guardians. To save paper, you do not need to print this out, simply acknowledge you have read it by sending an email with the subject line of **Your Name & Period. Please email me by the end of the second week of school.**

Looking forward to a great school year,

Mr. Cornelius

Mathematics Teacher GOHS