

PRE-CALCULUS
MR. BUTEYN

CONTACT: The best way is via email at mbuteyn@basd.k12.wi.us. You may also contact me by phone at 763-0200 (extension 4239). I do not recommend contacting me through Skyward.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Precalculus is taught around the concept of “functions as a model of change” and is designed to prepare students for Calculus and college-level mathematics. It contains a review of algebraic and geometric concepts, while expanding these concepts to incorporate real-world problems to advance mathematical skills.

MATERIALS: A 3-ring binder, red pen, pencil (mechanical is preferred), and looseleaf paper are needed for class. A TI-83+ (or better) calculator is used throughout the class and is required.

GRADING: Your grade will be based on your performance in several categories. Please understand that I *do not* give out grades, you earn your grade. You earn your grade by demonstrating your mastery of the material.

Students and parents often inquire as to whether extra credit is available. The answer is that it is occasionally offered on quizzes and tests and there may be an occasional extra credit opportunity throughout the year. These instances are rare. Please do not ask if there is extra credit available on an individual basis to bring up your grade. You may take advantage of the opportunities available, but no additional extra credit will be given to inflate grades-- your grade is based upon your ability to demonstrate your knowledge of the material.

The other question students and parents often ask is whether I round grades. The answer is I do not. The grade you earn in the gradebook is the grade you receive. Grades are computed in the following manner:

Binder = 10% Homework = 10% Quizzes = 30% Exams = 40% Midterm/Final = 10%.

CALCULUS: Students looking to be recommended for Calculus next year generally need to earn a grade of B+ or better in Precalculus.

HOMEWORK: Students will receive an assignment almost every day and should expect to spend 30-45 minutes outside of class each day on assignments. Assignments will be graded for completion the next day—and will be scored as either a 0, 1, or 2.

A solution manual for each chapter is available online. It is important that it is used to assist you with your assignment, not to simply copy answers. **If you want to be successful in the class, you must do your homework!** Work that is blatantly copied or that is not completely shown will result in no credit earned.

Late work is accepted for a total of two assignments per quarter and must be turned in the next day. Any student who has all assignments completed on time in a quarter will have their lowest quiz scored dropped for that quarter.

QUIZZES AND TESTS: Quizzes and tests are designed to assess student knowledge and are not subject to correction for an improved grade. Students get relief on difficult quizzes and tests as I do curve them when necessary.

NOTES/BINDERS: Note sheets are handed out for each lesson and are filled out by the students in class. These sheets must be stored, in order, in a three-ring binder. These binders will be collected and graded at the end of each term for organization and completion. If you are absent, get the note sheets and fill them out using another student's notes. Students must maintain the same binder for the semester—do not throw out the notes from the previous term. No photocopies are allowed.

CHEATING: Cheating is incredibly serious. At many universities, if you are caught cheating, you can be expelled. Therefore, please be responsible and do your own work. Working together on an assignment is always acceptable. However, copying someone else's work is not acceptable.

If you are caught cheating on an assignment, quiz, or test, you will receive a zero and will be issued a detention. You may choose to redo a quiz or test after school in my classroom for 50% credit.

EXTRA HELP: Sometimes math gets confusing, and if you need extra help, I am available after school Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. *PLEASE* do not be afraid to ask for help when you need it! It is therefore *your* responsibility to ask when you do not understand a concept. I'd be more than happy to help.

Please do not wait until the day before a test to tell me you do not understand anything in the chapter. You will not be able to learn all the material in one night. Please ask questions as we learn the material to give you the opportunity to master the material.

ABSENCES: *YOU* are responsible for any work that you miss.

- You have two days for every day you missed to turn in missing work (including tests).
- Homework due the day you were absent is due on the day you return.
- If you know you are going to be absent, *YOU* are responsible for informing me. Please let me know as soon as possible so I can get you the notes and homework assignment for when you will be absent.
- If you know you will be absent the day before a test (field trip or appointment), you are responsible for taking the test with the rest of the class.

GENERAL OUTLINE OF COURSE (including approximate time spent per chapter):

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| I. Linear Functions and Change | VII. Trigonometry |
| II. Functions | VIII. Trigonometric Functions |
| III. Quadratic Functions | IX. Trigonometric Identities |
| IV. Exponential Functions | X. Compositions and Inverses |
| V. Logarithmic Functions | XI. Polynomials and Rational Numbers |
| VI. Transformations | XII. Systems and Linear Programming |

CLASS EXPECTATIONS: Most rules are common sense and involve simply showing respect for fellow classmates, but here is the short list:

- *Be on time—detentions are given out after the third unexcused tardy.
- *While the lesson is being taught or if you are taking a quiz or a test, do not get out of your desk without permission.
- * If you have food or drink please take care of it quickly and quietly. Once the lesson starts the only thing left should be water. Pick up after yourself or you will lose the privilege completely.
- *MP3 players are allowed in class if they are used during work time only. If you use them during the lesson or a quiz or test, you will lose the privilege of using it and it will be taken from you.
- *Backpacks are not allowed.
- *Please keep cell phones put away unless you have permission to have them out.
- *At the end of the class period, I will dismiss you—not the bell. Do not pack up early or line up at the door near the end of class.

RESPECT AND RESPONSIBILITY: All BHS students are given report card comments rating their level of respect and responsibility. Components of respect and responsibility are illustrated below:

STUDENTS WHO ILLUSTRATE RESPECT:

- Use respectful tone when speaking with adults and peers
- Actively listen while others are talking
- Refrain from using derogatory remarks when talking about other people
- Follow directions
- Do not interfere with others’ learning
- Demonstrate empathy toward others

STUDENTS WHO ILLUSTRATE RESPONSIBILITY:

- Complete and turns in assignments on time
- Follow through with assigned tasks in group work
- Arrive on time to class
- Arrive to class with needed material

Parents,

Please cut above and sign below to indicate that you have read and understand the course description. Keep it for your records or remember that you can access it from the BASD website. (Simply find the staff directory and follow the link to my web page.) Please contact me immediately if you have any questions or concerns about the course or anything else throughout the year.

Student Name (Print)

Parent Name (Print)

Parent Signature