



Reynolds High School

Fundamentals of College Math

Building Relationships for Academic Success

Instructor Name: Jamie Baxter

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Required Textbooks/Materials: No textbook is required for this course. Course materials can be accessed through Schoology, given during class or accessed online.

Standard Classroom Supplies – Reynolds High School requires all students to have a 2” – 3” binder. One section in the binder will be dedicated for our class and homework assignments. Please always have a pen/pencil and notebook paper available for your use.

Computer – We will be using the classroom set of computers here at school, and will require time outside of class.

Calculator – I have a very limited number of calculators to loan during the day. A standard scientific Texas Instruments TI-30x (recommended) or TI-84 series calculator.

Course Description – This course is designed to introduce students to advanced algebra concepts such as those found in linear and nonlinear functions. This course is intended for students to prepare for Algebra 2 or College Algebra (MTH 95). All topics covered are required to meet Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and include the following:

1. *The Number System*
2. *Language of Algebra*
3. *Equations and Problem Solving*
4. *Graphs and Functions*
5. *Exponents and Polynomials*
6. *Factoring and Solving Equations*
7. *Quadratics*
8. *Rational Equations*
9. *Systems of Equations and Solving*

In addition to these topics, we will be focused heavily on the CCSS Math practice standards for Math. These standards are found in Appendix A of the CCSS Math standards, though include the following:

1. *Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.*
2. *Reason abstractly and quantitatively.*
3. *Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.*
4. *Model with mathematics.*
5. *Use appropriate tools strategically.*
6. *Attend to precision.*
7. *Look for and make use of structure*
8. *Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.*

Course Requirements – The requirement to take this class is to have taken Algebra 1 and both semesters of Geometry/Statistics, or an equivalent course.

Grading Policy Description – There are three categories the will comprise your final grade for the semester.

Mastery – 50% of your semester grade. This grade will contain: tests, problem-based tasks and other written assignments.

Formative – 40% of your semester grade. This grade contains homework and practice assignments, collaborative group assignments, in-class assignments and quizzes.

Final Exam – 10% of your semester grade. This is a comprehensive exam given each semester during finals week.

Letter Grade Description & Percentage Breakdown

(The following is our current language in the course catalog)

Grade Percentage	Letter Grade	Description
100% - 90%	A	The student fully understands the content and the course objectives have been mastered.
89% - 80%	B	The student understands the content and course objectives at an above average level.
79% - 70%	C	The student understands the course content and course objectives at an average level.
69% - 60%	D	The student understands the course content at a below average level and a minimum of course objectives are met.
59% - 0%	F	The student has not met a sufficient number of course objectives to pass a minimum level and receives no credit.

Late Work/Retake Policy

Work will not be accepted after the unit has been completed, unless special circumstances apply or prearranged with the teacher. It is expected that students turn in the **Unit Assignment Sheet(s)** on or before the day of the Unit Assessment.

Retakes are offered for each Mastery assessment. You may retake each mastery assessment **one time only**. Retakes need to be arranged and approved by your teacher.

POWER EXPECTATIONS

PREPARED AND PUNCTUAL – on time, ready to work on either class activity, group study time or your personal work. I should not need to tell you get to get started, within a reasonable amount of time. Food and drink is allowed, but this can be removed if there is an issue with cleanliness. You need to have your planner if you need to leave the classroom.

ORGANIZED – printouts and notes are in the binder and available for class use. You will also have to write out and track your activities weekly. These lists remain in your binder.

WRITERS – be prepared to write often. Be prepared to re-write when necessary. Be prepared to think as you write. This is a key to success in high school, college and beyond.

ENGAGED – Math is an active process. Rarely does someone understand something by only listening. Math and your education is all about you and the way you interact with those around you. You have chosen to take a path towards college, I am here to guide you and give you pieces of the map as you are ready for them. You need to be checked into your surroundings to find the way, this comes through listening to me, your classmates, and yourself. Be in the moment, but never forget the work required to get to that moment. And those pesky electronic devices remain away until or unless I say it is time.

RESPECTFUL– We all need to respect this place, our classmates and our fellow Raiders. That means we keep our school and classroom clean. We treat each other with respect, especially when in discussion or presenting information to the class. It really just comes down to being cool, not impressing your friends cool, but what you know inside yourself to be the right thing to do cool.

Dear Parents and Students of Mr. Baxter –

Welcome to Fundamentals of College Math! This should be a very exciting year for all of us, Fundamentals of College Math is a very fun and exciting course to teach and will review basics and continue preparing your students to be successful in more advanced courses in high school and college. We are running with a new block schedule this year, but there will be some very clear expectations to make sure we all find a winning formula so that all students can find success.

Classroom policies will be discussed and agreed upon by students during their class time. Come to class ready to experience math in a way you have not yet imagined. We will have fun, and do some serious learning to better prepare you for your next steps here and after RHS.

Student Signature _____

Date _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____