

ALGEBRA I COURSE SYLLABUS
SMITH PREP FALL TERM 2010
INSTRUCTOR: Matt West

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WEB PAGE: Any resources that are needed will be in the Training Series section of my webpage (<http://www.ProfWest.com>).

CLASS HOURS: 11:00-12:45 THU

A. DESCRIPTION

This course is a primer on Algebra. We will cover the entire book, but we will select some topics as more important than others. The teacher has determined the subjects that are most necessary to cover, and those are the topics we will cover. If there is an area that you feel we need to cover, please see me during the first month and I will try to make sure it is included.

B. GRADING PLAN

1. Homework	20%
2. Final Exam	30%
3. Top Five Quizzes	50%

HOMEWORK:

Homework will be given for every class. Homework is given where the answers are in the back of the book. You will be graded on completion and effort. "Good effort" is graded according to the type of problems assigned. Including diagrams, showing work, copying down the original problem, and following directions are all signs of "Good effort". If it is suspected that you are not trying, the right to grade the homework for its correctness is reserved. Homework is to make sure that you understand the material.

QUIZZES:

There will be a quiz over each chapter. They are not distinctively cumulative. Quiz questions will be just like the homework problems. If you understand the homework, you will do well on the quizzes. These may be take-home or open-book.

FINAL EXAM:

This will be a cumulative exam taken during the final class.

C. YOUR IDEAS, EVALUATIONS, ETC.

In general, your ideas, comments, suggestions, questions, etc. are welcome. Your discretion in these matters is expected, however. No part of your grade will be based on anything other than your coursework. I will attempt to teach the material and be very clear about what is on each test or quiz. If there is anything you do not understand or do not feel was made clear, I would love to work with you.

D. SUGGESTIONS FOR SUCCESS

For most students this will not be a "difficult" course. If you do the work assigned each night and understand it, you will be set for success. If you decide to not do your work or merely go through the motions and do not understand it, you could find yourself with a very difficult class. If you do not understand the homework one evening, call or email me, so I can help you with it.

FALL 2010 WEEK BY WEEK SCHEDULE

August 19, 2010

Introduction to Algebra

August 26, 2010

Integers & Inequalities

September 2, 2010

Rational Numbers (Add,
Subtract, Multiply, and Divide)

September 9, 2010

Quiz over Chapters 1-2
Solving Equations One Function

September 16, 2010

Solving Equations
with Multiple Operations

September 23, 2010

Quiz over Chapter 3
Ratios, Proportions, Percents

September 30, 2010

Simple & Compound Interest,
Percent Change

October 7, 2010

Real World Applications,
Quiz over Chapter 4

October 21, 2010

Inequalities

October 28, 2010

Quiz over Chapter 5
Polynomial Operations

November 4, 2010

Scientific Notation & Special Products

November 11, 2010

Quiz over Chapter 6
GCF and LCM

November 18, 2010

Factoring with Grouping, Distributive
Property, Solving Strategies

December 2, 2010

Factoring Trinomials and Squares

December 9, 2010

Quiz over Chapter 7
Basic Rational Expressions

December 16, 2010

EXAM over Chapters 1-7