

ALGEBRA II 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: 12:45-2:15 THU

A. DESCRIPTION

This course is an in-depth study on Algebra. The book begins to get into advanced math, and WE WILL NOT COVER THE ENTIRE BOOK. We will get through all the major topics that are necessary for advancement into the Advanced Math class, and you will learn everything one would learn in College Algebra. The teacher has determined the subjects that are most necessary to cover, and those are the topics we will cover.

B. GRADING PLAN

1. Homework	substitute up to 10%
2. Final Cumulative Exam	30%
3. Chapter Tests	70%

HOMEWORK:

Homework will be given each class. I generally give homework where the answers are in the back of the book. You will be graded each day on completion. Correctness is not necessary, but if I suspect that you are not trying, I reserve the right to grade the homework for its correctness. My main goal with homework is to make sure that you understand the material. If your participation rate in the homework is greater than your lowest test grade, we will substitute your homework grade for that lowest test grade.

CHAPTER TESTS:

There will be a test every other week, beginning September 2. That totals 7 tests. Each test will be problems just like the homework. If you understand the homework, you will do well on the test. The top 6 test scores will count.

FINAL CUMULATIVE EXAM:

There will be a final cumulative exam on December 16. You will have material sent home with each test that will detail the material that will be on the exam.

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.

August 19, 2010—Basic Review and Establishing of Baseline

August 26, 2010—Solving Equations, Absolute Value, Inequalities, and Compound & Absolute Value Inequalities

September 2, 2010—Test on Chapter 1, Relations, Functions, and Slope

September 9, 2010—Linear and Special Functions, Writing, Graphing, and Modeling Real World Data

September 16, 2010—Test on Chapter 2, Solving Systems of Equations and Linear Programming Algebraically

September 23, 2010—Solving Equalities and Inequalities by Graphing, Solving systems with three variables

September 30, 2010—Test on Chapter 3. Introduce, Identify, Operate, and Inverse Matrices

October 7, 2010—Multiplying, Transforming, and Using Matrices. Determinants and Cramer's Rule.

October 21, 2010—Test on Chapter 4. Monomials and Polynomials; Dividing and Factoring.

October 28, 2010—Roots, Radicals, Rational Exponents, Inequalities, and Complex Numbers.

November 4, 2010—Test on Chapter 5. Quadratic Equations

November 11, 2010—Analyzing graphs and completing the square.

November 18, 2010—Test on Chapter 6. Polynomials, graphing polynomials.

December 2, 2010—Remainder and factor theories, zero theorem, roots, inverse functions, square root functions.

December 9, 2010—Test on Chapter 7. Review for the Final Exam.

December 16, 2010—Final Cumulative Exam