

Mr. Robert Platoni

Syllabus

Algebra I

COURSE OBJECTIVE: After completing this course, students will be able to (1) simplify and evaluate algebraic expressions, (2) solve equations, (3) graph linear equations and inequalities, (4) simplify and factor polynomials, and (5) solve real-world problem sets dealing with all of the above concepts.

REQUIRED MATERIALS: Lecture notebook
Folder
Pencils

NOTE: NO PENS... NO CALCULATORS... have any function in this course. Do not bother bringing them to class.

TEXTBOOK: Holt Algebra I (2007)

COURSE OUTLINE:

1. Lecture notes will be given daily and the material from the lectures will appear on tests, quizzes, and class work (all counting for grades). Students, who wish to perform well in the class, should record all notes in a notebook strictly reserved for math. Class participation is based on verbal contributions and the teacher's observation of notes being recorded by students.
2. Quizzes will be given weekly. Students must be prepared everyday for these quizzes, even though they may not occur everyday. They may, or may not be announced ahead of time.
3. Tests will be given at the end of every chapter. They will be announced in class and on-line two to three days in advance. This provides a prepared student adequate time to review. Tutoring is available. See Mr. Platoni for more information.
4. Anyone absent from school (for an excused reason) during a test or a quiz will take a make-up test/quiz (during class or after school) one to two days after their return (unless otherwise decided by the teacher). If a student misses a test or a quiz due to a school activity and fails to warn Mr. Platoni of the conflict in advance of the absence, they will be penalized with a point deduction on the make-up test.
5. Homework will be given every night. It will be checked on random days, so every student is advised to do it every night. Note this work will not be graded. Homework not done to the student's best ability (including the problem, the work, and the solution) will earn them a failure or zero for homework. **Zeros add up! You do the math!**
6. Class work, however, will be graded, as noted below. Class work will be defined as the one to three problems assigned after randomly chosen lectures. The students will be given at least 15 minutes, at the end of these lectures, to complete these problems; independent of teacher/student assistance. The solutions will be done on loose-leaf, and handed-in prior to the students leaving class on that same day. Absentees must make-up all class work, after making arrangements with Mrs. Lutek.
7. A notebook, organizing all of the class notes and homework for the course, must be kept for the course. The notebook will be graded at the end of every quarter. The grade will count in conjunction with the class work grade, and count for 25% of your average.

8. The course schedule will be posted, every week, on the school website (www.shhsliions.com). This allows every student, whether in class or absent, to remain current with their daily assignments...no excuses!

GRADING:

Class Participation 10%

Notebook/Classwork 25%

Quizzes 25%

Tests 40%

STUDENTS AND PARENTS PLEASE NOTE: Class participation, although only 10%, can very easily help or hurt a grade. With approximately 40 days per quarter, a student stands to either earn or lose 2 ½ points per class day.

How to earn 2 ½ points per day...

- Follow the lecture, with full attention on either the book or the virtual white board/teacher.
- Take notes, try practice problems (in class), and answer the teacher's questions.
- Arrive in class before the final bell, dressed in full uniform (hair included), with no gum, purse, or electronic device.

How to lose 2 ½ points per day...

- Put your head on the desk or attempt to close your eyes...ever!
- Fail to write notes and problems relative to the lecture.
- Violate the dress code, bring a purse or electronic device, and chew gum.

If I have to take class time to address any rule infraction, it will be 2 ½ points deducted plus any consequence recommended by the student handbook.

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE: Any parent wishing to contact me with any questions or concerns may do so via e-mail (rplaton@shhsliions.com) or phone (856-691-4491 Ext. 1402). Students may not e-mail or call me at any time. If a student has any questions, they must see me after class.