Mr. McCall

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(412)492-1200 ext. 1737

Honors Precalculus

Course Description

- This is a rigorous course designed for the serious student, typically sophomores or juniors, who intends to take Advanced Placement Calculus in the next year. It provides a strong foundation of functions, trigonometry, discrete mathematics, and data analysis. An introduction to calculus, including the study of limits will be discussed. Graphing calculators will be used throughout the course. Students will be expected to show understanding of trig functions and graphs with and without the calculator. Problem solving is required and problems are approached algebraically and supported graphically, or approached graphically and supported algebraically. A graphing calculator is required. A TI-83, TI-83+, Ti-84, or TI-84+ is the recommended calculator. These will be the calculators used by the instructor.

Class Rules:

1. **Arrive to class on time.** (2 tardies will result in a detention.)
2. **Come to class prepared.** (Coming to class unprepared will result in loss of class participation points.)
3. You may only **speak if you have raised your hand and are called on** by the teacher. (Speaking out of turn will result in loss of class participation points)
4. **Pencil Only!** Erase don’t scratch out! (If you don’t have one, you may borrow one in exchange for your shoe. Any quizzes, tests, or homework done in anything other than pencil will result in a loss of 10% of the points.)

5. **Maintain Academic Integrity.** Cheating will result in an automatic

*zero* for the work.

1. **Respect Personal Space.** (If you need something ask first.)
2. **Hallway privileges** are a privilege not a right. If you are disrespectful, you lose your privileges.
3. **No cell phones, MP3 players, etc.** If I see them in use they will be confiscated and turned into the office as stated in the student handbook.
4. **Dress appropriately for class.** *Hats are not allowed to be worn, as stated in the student handbook.* If you break the dress code, you will be referred to the office.
5. **DO NOT SPRAY** any perfume, cologne, body spray, etc. in or near my classroom! If you do you will be asked to leave the classroom.
6. **Treat others how you would like to be treated.**
7. **All rules from the student handbook also apply so be familiar with them.**

**What is expected of you:**

**Notebook**

* **You are expected to keep a note book.** It will have two sections in it. The first

section will have all your class notes from the semester. The second section will

have all your homework assigned for the semester. You need to keep this in order

by date. A notebook test will be given at the end of each quarter and will account

for 5% of your final grade. This will also be used to aid in review for chapter exams

as well as the midterm and final exams.

- Notes are the only time it is acceptable to use pen in my class.

**Homework**

- All homework is due, and will be checked, at the *beginning* of the period unless you’re told otherwise. You will receive 4 points for every homework assignment.

- Late assignments will only be accepted 1 day late and for half credit.

**Absences**

- If you are absent one day you will be given one day to make up the work. If you

are absent two days you get two days to make it up, etc. It is **your** responsibility to get

your make-up work. I will not chase you down to give it to you. All homework

assignments are posted on my website under your respective class.

**Class participation**

* You are expected to participate in class. Your continued understanding and overall success in this course relies on you taking an active role in class.

**Tests and Quizzes**

- I will not give any test without a review.

* All tests will be announced at least 2 days ahead of time.
* All the quiz and test questions will come from problems similar to ones done in class, from the homework, and on the test review.
* *Neatness and work counts*. The answer is only worth half of the points, the other half of the credit comes from your work so **Show your work!**
* I reserve the right to give pop quizzes, so make sure you’re completing your homework.

# Calculators

* I highly suggest you have your own graphing calculator. The TI-83 or TI-83 plus is recommended and will be what I use for class demonstrations.

My Webpage

* I pride myself on maintaining my webpage as a great supplemental resource to our in-class activities. The homework page is updated daily with class assignments as well as any important announcements about class. There are numerous links to online tutors, graphing calculators, homework help, and many other resources. I would encourage you to explore my webpage and discover all that’s available.

**Directions to my webpage:**

- Enter the following web address in your web browser:

[www.sasd.k12.pa.us](http://www.sasd.k12.pa.us)

- Click on the link to the **High School** in the bottom left column of the

page.

- In the top left column click **Staff Directory**.

- Scroll down to the Math Department and click on **Seth McCall**

Bonus

- You have the opportunity to earn bonus points by correctly solving and

explaining a homework problem on the board. Points are awarded at my discretion. I don’t give “Bonus” assignments, so please don’t even ask.

**The Grading Scale is as stated in the student handbook.**

**The percentage breakdown of your overall grade is as follows:**

Tests and Quizzes………….70%

Homework…………………20%

Notebook Test……………..10%

**Parents/ Guardians:**

I consider it a privilege to have the opportunity to teach your son/daughter. I also want to encourage you to take an active role in your child’s education. Homework is assigned almost every night, and is checked for completion the following day. Ask your son/daughter if they’ve done their homework and are prepared for class tomorrow. Check my webpage for updates on homework as well as class announcements. These two simple actions can really make a difference in your son/daughter’s success in my class. I look forward to having this year to teach your son/daughter, and hope they will enjoy class as much as I enjoy teaching them. Please feel free to call or e-mail me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Seth J. McCall

This page needs to be signed by **both** student and parent/guardian. By signing this you acknowledge that you have read the syllabus in its entirety and understand what is expected in my classroom.

Parent/Guardian Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Pre-Calculus 2008 – 2009

Mr. Stadelman

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Email: stadelmanp@sasd.k12.pa.us

***Responsibilities:***

The pre-requisite for this class is a grade of a C or higher in C.P. Algebra 2

1. All students are expected to act courteous in class. Disruptive behavior or disrespect will not be tolerated. If you wish to speak, you will raise your hand and wait until you are called upon.
2. All students are expected to be on time to class. After two lates, there will be an assigned detention. Being on time requires the student to be in his/her seat when the bell rings.
3. Be sure to bring all materials to class everyday (notebook, textbook, pen/pencil).
4. Stay in your seat until the bell rings.
5. During tests and quizzes, there will be no talking until the last person finishes. Those who choose to ignore this will receive a zero on that test or quiz.

***Grading Procedures:***

**Tests/Quizzes**

These will encompass about 70 percent of your grade. Most tests and quizzes will be announced in advance and students who are absent will be required to take the missed test or quiz upon their next day at school.

**Homework**

You should expect to have homework on most days. This will be checked for completeness and to receive full credit for an assignment, every problem must be attempted on paper. When an absence occurs, it is the student’s responsibility to get the homework assignment complete it and present it to the instructor within three days of the absence. Late assignments will only be accepted if there is an absence or arrangements have been made previously with the instructor. All work missed due to school activities, family vacations, etc. should be turned in when the student returns to class.

**Attendance**

Pre-calculus is a course that contains many topics that build from one and other. Regular attendance will be crucial to the student’s success in this course. School policy will be followed in the event of extreme absenteeism.

We will follow the district grading scale in this course: 92 – 100 A; 82 – 91 B; 72 – 81 C; 64 – 71 D; 63 and below F.

# Calculators

A graphing calculator is required for the course. TI-83 or TI-83 plus is preferred and recommended.