



# Algebra I-A Course Information Form

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Conferences available periods A4 and B7 or after school.

**Course Description:** Algebra I-A is the first year in a 2 year sequence covering the same content of Algebra I, however, extra emphasis will be placed on remediation of prerequisite skills and problem solving in order to ensure all students can successfully master the concepts of Algebra. The course is designed to guide students through cooperative investigations of the major topics of Algebra I. It is imperative that students keep up with the pacing of the course, since it is very difficult to recover if you fall too far behind. I am available for additional help after school on most Tuesdays.

**Course Outline:** The Algebra IA curriculum includes, but is not limited to the following general strands:

Unit 1	Foundations for Algebra
Unit 2	Solving Equations
Unit 3	Solving Inequalities
Unit 4	An Introduction to Functions
Unit 5	Linear Functions
Unit 6	Systems of Equations and Inequalities
Unit 7	Exponents and Exponential Functions

**Materials Needed:** Students will be expected to bring the following items to class on a daily basis;

- 1) Textbook - *Florida Algebra 1 Common Core*: Pearson, 2015. (available online)
- 2) Algebra Nation Workbook
- 3) 3-ring binder (rings at least 1") with all work in chronological order
- 4) Both Notebook & Graph paper
- 5) Scientific Calculator - The following calculators are approved for use on the Algebra I FSA End-of-Course assessment, and are highly recommended:
  - Texas Instruments TI-30Xa,
  - Casio fx-260,
  - Casio fx-82,
  - Sharp EL-510R,
  - Sharp EL-510RNCell phones may *not* be used as calculators.
- 6) At least 2 pencils
- 7) Standard style ear-buds or headphones. (plug-in, not Bluetooth)

**Student Evaluation:** Regular evaluation of students takes part on a daily basis. Student grades will be calculated based on total points earned, and based on 4 different categories:

**1) Tests / Projects (100 points each)**

This category represents major chapter or unit tests in the nine-week period, as well as a wide variety of projects which will be assigned throughout the year. These projects will be counted as test grades, and be scored based on a rubric specifically designed for the given project. Students will be provided with scoring rubrics at the time the project is assigned.

**2) Classwork / Homework (5 points each)**

Homework will be given on a daily basis, and is expected to be in class and completed when it is due. Late homework will not be accepted. Students who are absent are expected to get the assignments that they missed from the assignment board, and have them turned in as soon as possible. Absent students will have no longer than the number of days absent to get make-up work turned in. See the homework scoring rubric below for more details on homework grades.

**3) Quizzes (20-30 points each)**

Regular in-class quizzes will be given to check students' progress and comprehension.

**4) Warm-Ups / Exit Slips / Class Presentation (25 points)**

Each class period will begin with 3-5 warm up problems intended to launch into the day's lesson. Warm-ups will review prior knowledge needed for the lesson, or assess understanding of recently learned topics. Exit slips will assess understanding of the basics of the daily lesson. In addition, students will be expected to present selected problems to the class throughout the quarter.

**End of Course Exam**

Students in Algebra IA do not have to take a state FSA, but will take a district end-of-course exam which will count at 20% of the second semester grade. Students will take the state FSA for Algebra I next year along with the full Algebra I course.

**Homework Scoring Rubric:** Daily work will receive one of four possible grades based on the following rubric:

**5 points**

*and  
and  
and  
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and*

- \* All problems are copied and completed.
- \* All conditions of the problems are satisfied.
- \* All or most of the answers are correct.
- \* Student answers word problems in complete sentences, restating the question in their answer.
- \* Student shows work or explains problem steps in sentences.
- \* Work is neat and easy to follow.

**4 points**

*and  
and  
and  
and  
and*

- \* At least 80% of the assignment is complete.
- \* Most of the conditions of the problems are satisfied.
- \* Most of the answers are correct.
- \* Student answers word problems in complete sentences, but does not restate the question in their answers.
- \* Student shows work or explains problem steps in sentences.
- \* Work is neat and easy to follow.

**3 points**

*or  
or  
or*

- \* At least 60% of the assignment is complete.
- \* Fewer than 70% of answers are correct even if complete.
- \* Student does not answer word problems in complete sentences.
- \* Work is not neatly organized or difficult to follow.

**0 points**

*or  
or  
or  
or  
or*

- \* Less than 60% of the assignment was completed.
- \* Assignment only contains a list of answers (correct or not)
- \* Answers are incorrect and not thought out, even if complete.
- \* Work is not neatly organized or difficult to follow.
- \* The assignment was not turned in on time.
- \* Student was absent and did not make up the assignment.

**Online Support:** Most course materials and daily assignments will be posted on my website - [www.themathcab.com](http://www.themathcab.com). Students who are absent are encouraged to check the site, which should be updated by the end of the school day each day. Support videos will also be posted on the Algebra I blog page, should you need extra help. Online Textbook support is available through Pearson Realize. A link can be found at the top of my website for direct access. This site provides an online textbook, sample problems with solutions, and online video support for each section of our textbook.

**Test Recovery:** *Douglas Anderson is a school which embraces mistakes as an essential part of learning.* As a result, students who have completed at least 80% of their homework for a particular unit will be eligible to re-take the unit test if an unsatisfactory grade (69% or lower) was earned the first time. Students who wish to take advantage of test recovery must come to at least two Power-Hour sessions to review and correct their original test prior to scheduling the retest. Test re-takes must be completed in one session, and therefore must be done after school by appointment. Retakes are only allowed once per unit. Once tests have been retaken, the test grade can be improved up to a maximum of 70%.

**Extra Help:** Extra help is available most days during *Lunch & Learn* and, if necessary, after school by appointment. There are also tutoring opportunities available through the National Honor Society. Students should come to extra help with specific questions, as extra help time will not be devoted to re-teaching class material due to inattentiveness during class time.

### **Classroom Rules:**

- 1) **Be on Time.** There is a lot to learn, and we need all of the time we have.
- 2) **Come in, go straight to your seat, and stay there unless you have been given permission to move.** You may sharpen your pencils before class, and throw away your trash on your way out.
- 3) **Show respect towards other people, their opinions, and their things.** You want and deserve the same respect shown toward yourself. Raise your hand and wait to be called on before speaking. Do not touch things that do not belong to you.
- 4) **Please come to class prepared.** In order to learn what we need to, you will need a pen, pencil, paper, your textbook, your notebook, and a calculator.
- 5) **No food, drink, candy, or gum is allowed.** Class time is not snack time. You may bring bottled water if necessary.
- 6) **No electronic devices.** Cell phones, iPods, laptops, or any other electronic devices are not needed for class. Remember, "No Cell, bell-to-bell."
- 7) **Students are dismissed by the teacher, not the bell.**
- 8) **Respect the authority of all school personnel.** We are *all* here to help you!!