



# Algebra 1 / Algebra 1a Course Information Form

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## Course Description:

- **Algebra I** serves as a standard level course bridging students into all high school level mathematics courses. A solid background in Algebra I is required to progress into any other math course.
  - **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 either course, since it is very difficult to recover if you fall too far behind. I am available for additional help during our Lunch & Learn program, and after school as needed.

**Course Outline:** The Algebra I curriculum includes, but is not limited to the following general strands:  
(\*Units subject to change as we transition from Common Core Standards to Florida's new BEST Standards.)

Unit 0	Getting Ready
Unit 1	Expressions
Unit 2	Equations and Inequalities
Unit 3	Introduction to Functions
Unit 4	Linear Functions and Inequalities
Unit 5	Quadratic Functions (Part 1)
Unit 6	Quadratic Functions (Part 2)
Unit 7	Exponential Functions
Unit 8	Summary of Functions
Unit 9	One-Variable Statistics
Unit 10	Two-Variable Statistics

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

- 1) Algebra Nation Workbook (May be kept in the classroom, or brought home if necessary.)
- 2) 3-ring binder (rings at least 1") with all work in chronological order
- 3) Both Notebook & Graph paper
- 4) 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.
- 5) At least 2 pencils
- 6) Standard style ear-buds or headphones. (plug-in, not Bluetooth)

**Parent Conferences:** While most questions and concerns can be handled by e-mailing me at the address listed at the top of this sheet, I am available during periods A4 and B8, as well as after school on most days for parent conferences. To schedule a conference, please contact Ms. Silsby in our School Counseling Office at (904)346-5620 ext. 1107999925.

**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 (50-100 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:**

- **Algebra 1:** The Florida State Assessments (FSA) includes an End-of-Course exam for Algebra I. Your grade on this exam will constitute 30% of your overall year-long grade in the course. It is required that you pass this test for graduation.
- **Algebra 1A:** Students in Algebra 1A 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* \* All problems are copied and completed.
- and* \* All conditions of the problems are satisfied.
- and* \* All or most of the answers are correct.
- and* \* Student answers word problems in complete sentences, restating the question in their answer.
- and* \* Student shows work or explains problem steps in sentences.
- and* \* Work is neat and easy to follow.

**4 points**

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

**3 points**

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

**0 points**

- or* \* Less than 60% of the assignment was completed.
- or* \* Assignment only contains a list of answers (correct or not)
- or* \* Answers are incorrect and not thought out, even if complete.
- or* \* Work is not neatly organized or difficult to follow.
- or* \* The assignment was not turned in on time.
- or* \* 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 video tutorials and support is available through Algebra Nation. A link can be found at the top of my website for direct access.

**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 Lunch & Learn sessions (\*when offered) 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. \*During remote learning, extra help is also available through the *Microsoft Teams* platform. There will be a Q & A channel, where students can reach out with questions, and if necessary, request a one-on-one virtual help session. 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!!

## The DA Integrity Statement:

At Douglas Anderson, we believe that the arts define us. We believe that the arts enrich all human endeavors by bridging differences among people and teaching creative and critical thinking skills. We believe that an environment that promotes student learning and encourages the creative process is physically, intellectually, and emotionally safe. Providing a creative, equitable, and inclusive atmosphere where all students can realize their artistic dreams is integral to our mission of becoming the leading public arts high school in the nation.

It is the expectation that all students at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts hold themselves to the highest standards academically, artistically, and behaviorally. We do not tolerate the following behaviors:

- **Academic Dishonesty** *including but not limited to:*
  - **Cheating:** Copying answers, data, or other information (or allowing others to do so)
  - **Plagiarism:** Representing the ideas or work of another person as the student's own.
  - **Unauthorized Assistance:** Using a personal electronic device or other form of study aid, physical or digital, during an assessment or assignment without the faculty member's express permission.
  
- **Excessive Unexcused Absences** *including but not limited to:*
  - 5 or more unexcused absences in a calendar month or 10 or more unexcused absences in a 90-day period
  - Excessive unexcused class period absences
  
- **Unethical Behaviors** *including but not limited to:*
  - Use of **Racial Slurs** in verbal, written or electronic form (including but not limited to Social Media, text messages, Airdrop, etc.) on or off school campus
  - **Harassment:** Any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, communication (verbal, written, electronic) or physical action directed against a student or school employee
  - **Bullying:** Systematically and repeatedly inflicting physical hurt or psychological distress upon another; includes cyberbullying
  - **Sexual Misconduct**

Infractions will be addressed in accordance with the **Duval County Public Schools' Student Code of Conduct**. In addition, DA will have supplemental measures in place such as Restorative Practices that will be used in an effort to correct the unacceptable behavior and repair broken culture. Please note that certain infractions must be reported to colleges to which the student is applying, both by the student (who must explain the infraction to the college) and by the school.

Those individuals who do not uphold the standards, values, and ethics of Douglas Anderson School of the Arts may face outcomes including but not limited to:

- Arts area mentoring for the semester
- Referral to school counselor and/or special programs
- Referral to the Attendance Intervention Team (AIT)
- Exclusion from membership in any honor society
- Exclusion from leadership roles (e.g., Student Government, P/R Class, Issue-Based Theatre, etc.)
- Exclusion from representing the school through participation in:
  - On-campus performances (e.g., concerts) or activities (e.g., Guest Artist, Master Class)
  - Off-campus performances (e.g., Extravaganza) or other field trips (e.g., GradBash)
- Inability to be recommended to a college/university

## Duval HomeRoom Virtual School Addendum:

The following information pertains to students learning virtually through DA, in the event that a class or school is required to quarantine for a given length of time.



**Student E-mail:** When working virtually, your DCPS e-mail is our primary way of being able to connect with you individually. It is critical that you make checking it part of your regular daily routine. I recommend you either add your DCPS account to your existing phone e-mail app, or download *Microsoft Outlook* to manage your school e-mail. (Remember *Microsoft Office* products, including *Word*, *Excel*, *PowerPoint*, *Outlook*, are all free with your DCPS student account. They can be added to your mobile devices and personal computers.)

**Class Attendance:** When not meeting face-to-face at school, each class period will meet virtually via the *Microsoft Teams* platform. Students are expected to be online and in the live chat at the time of the regularly scheduled class. Students should have a working microphone, and are expected to participate in class either verbally, or through the *Teams* live chat. Students are required to also have a camera available for interactive discussions. Any time a student is using a camera in their home, they should be sure to blur the background (available in *Teams* software) and/or check for school-appropriate appearance.

**Class Assignments:** All class assignments will be posted on my website <http://www.themathcab.com>, as well as on the *Microsoft Teams* software, where there will also be detailed instructions. While it will be helpful for students to have printer access for worksheets and handouts, it is not required. Problems from worksheets can be copied onto notebook or graph paper and completed with no problems.

**Turning in Work while virtual:** All “traditional” work will be turned in digitally via the DCPS Focus portal. Assignments should be scanned as a .pdf file (instructions will be provided) and uploaded as a single file into Focus. Multiple pages of photos, or zipped files can not be accessed for grading within the Focus software, and will, therefore, not be accepted. If you have any issues with formatting or turning in work, please reach out to me for assistance.

**Digital or Online Assignments:** Some work will be assigned on various digital platforms, such as Deltamath.com, AlgebraNation.com, MathXL, and Desmos.com. Each of these platforms have rich and interactive activities that can be completed either individually, or collaboratively online from home. Some online activities will require you to show work on paper, that will be expected to be turned in via Focus for credit. Please be sure to read all instructions carefully.

**Student Success:** Online coursework can be very easy for some students, and quite challenging for others. Remember, my main goal is for you to be successful. If at any time you are feeling like you are slipping behind, getting lost, or feeling overwhelmed, please reach out for help. I can be reached through our Teams Q & A channel (remember, I have 3 live classes a day, so I may not be able to answer you immediately), or you can e-mail me at [allen-blackc@duvalschools.org](mailto:allen-blackc@duvalschools.org).