

# Mr. Firebaugh's Course Syllabus for Honors Precalculus

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For help feel free to come to me before school, during HIVE/my free periods, or after school.

## **Overview:**

- Chapter 0 (R) is a review of Algebra II concepts, and will be used to get us ready for Precalculus.
- We will be looking at Functions and Relations from a Calculus perspective in Chapter 1.
- In Chapter 2 we will be looking at Polynomial and Rational functions.
- We will be discussing Exponential and Logarithmic Functions in Chapter 3.
- Chapter 4 is dealing with Trigonometric Functions.
- In Chapter 5 we will be looking at Analytic Trigonometry.
- Chapter 6 will apply the Trig. Functions.
- Chapter 7 will apply Trig to Polar Coordinate Systems and Vectors.
- In Chapter 8 we will study Systems of Equations and Inequalities.
- Matrices, Determinants, and Applications will be studied in Chapter 9.
- Chapter 10 deals with Analytic Geometry.
- Chapter 11 involves Sequences, Series, and Probability which then leads into the Preview of Calculus (online) in Chapter 12.
- Along with all of these mathematical topics I will be implementing graphing calculator skills, an online component called ALEKS, as well as ACT and SAT preparation.

**\*We will be going at an advanced pace as compared to the regular Precalc. classes.**

**YOUR BOOK IS: McGraw Hill: Precalculus**

You can access your book online at [www.aleks.com](http://www.aleks.com)

**USERNAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PASSWORD:** Jackets2023 (case sensitive)

**Google Classroom Code for Honors Precalculus: sfhbodn**

**Remind Enrolment: Text @cfhonorspc to 81010**

**Worth ONE credit toward graduation. Worth COTC credit if you qualified via GPA and ACT math score, or GPA and ACCUPLACER Test.**

**\*\*If you are planning on getting into AP Calculus next year you MUST have a B or higher for your final grade.**

## **Calculators:**

- i) You will need your own graphing calculator.
- ii) I recommend that you have a TI-83 or TI-84.

- Materials:**
1. A 2” three ring binder
  2. Three dividers for the binder
    - a. Notes
    - b. Homework
    - c. Bellworks
  3. Filler paper
  4. **Pencils ONLY!**—If you forget a pencil borrow one!

**Rules:**

1. Follow directions the first time they are given.
2. Be on Time! **TARDIES:** All students must be in the room and **IN THEIR SEATS** when the bell rings.
3. Be Prepared! Have paper, pencil, and book with you **EVERY DAY!**
4. Be Polite! Students should never talk to the teacher or another student when someone is explaining or demonstrating.
5. Be Respectful! Do not write on or damage anything that does not belong to you.
6. Stay seated from bell to bell! **NO LINING UP AT THE DOOR!**
7. You are allowed **3** restroom passes per nine weeks!

**Consequences:**

1. Verbal Warning/Held after Class – **NO PASS!**
  2. Detention – 2:45 to 3:15
  3. Call Home
  4. Office Referral (Based on Behavior)
- **Zeros** will be given for unexcused absences.

**Homework:**

- Homework will be given every day with the exception of after a quiz or a test.
- Homework **will not** be taken for a grade every day, but it **is necessary** to do it to be successful in this class.
- Work **must** be shown at all times! (homework, bellwork, quizzes, tests).

**ALEKS:**

- ALEKS will be a weekly assignment. ALEKS is a self paced math program that allows students to strengthen previously taught math skills/concepts or to practice new material. Students will be required to “learn” **7** topics per week in ALEKS.
- ALEKS will be implemented into the inclass/homework grade category.

**Make-up Work: THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!**

- If you are absent the day of a test or quiz but you were here for the review for that test or quiz you will take it the day you come back.
- If you missed the review day you will take the test/quiz with the rest of the class.
- If a test or quiz is not made up within a week of me giving it, I reserve the right to give you a zero on that test or quiz.
- Go to the Google calendar in our Google Classroom to get the assignment for the day you missed. You are still responsible to know the material for your upcoming bellwork, quiz, or test.

**Inclass/Homework/Extra Credit: 10% of your overall grade**

**Bellwork: 15% of your overall grade**

- Bellwork will be given approximately 2-3 times per week.
- You will be able to use your notes and homework assignments to complete these for most sections.
- They will be timed, with most having a maximum time of 10 minutes to complete.
- The purpose is to continue reviewing the material to prepare you for the upcoming quiz or test.
- Absent? An **excused absence** will exclude the bellwork from your grade, while an **unexcused absence** will be a **zero!**

**Quizzes: 25% or your overall grade**

- Quizzes will be given about once every three sections, with or without notice so be prepared!
- There are approximately 2 quizzes per chapter.
- If you start a quiz that quiz **MUST** be finished before you leave for the day!

**Tests: 50% of your grade**

- Tests are given after each chapter (with a possibility of a mid-chapter test)
- There will be about 3 tests per quarter.
- If you start a test that test **MUST** be finished before you leave for the day.

**Exams: 25% or your semester grade**

- There will be a 1<sup>st</sup> semester and 2<sup>nd</sup> semester exam at the end of each semester which will cover the material from that semester only.

**1 to 1 Initiative:**

Keep all electronic devices **and** earbuds **turned off and out of sight** until the teacher instructs you to use them.

All phones are to be turned off and out of sight **before, during, and after** a quiz or a test!

**Cheating:**

1<sup>st</sup> Offense = A zero on your homework, test, or quiz.

-I will talk to who was involved.

-A call will go home, and it will be reported to the office.

2<sup>nd</sup> Offense = Directly to administration

**Grading Scale:**

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| A: 100-92.5    | C: 77.49-72.5  |
| A-: 92.49-90   | C-: 72.49-70   |
| B+: 89.99-87.5 | D+: 69.99-67.5 |
| B: 87.49-82.5  | D: 67.49-62.5  |
| B-: 82.49-80   | D-: 62.49-60.0 |
| C+: 79.99-77.5 | F: below a 60% |

**Grades: Weighted Averages**

|             |      |
|-------------|------|
| HW/Inclass: | 10%  |
| Bellwork:   | 15%  |
| Quizzes:    | 25 % |
| Tests:      | 50%  |

\*\* There will be some opportunity for extra credit, but that extra credit will be available to the whole class, not just to one individual student.

\*\* You can check your grade with your progress book password (see guidance if you don't have one).

\*\* Syllabus is subject to change at the teacher's discretion.

Have a Great Year!





August 18, 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian –

Welcome to a new year here at Mount Vernon High School! I will be teaching your son/daughter in Honors Precalculus this school year. This class can be taken for college credit through COTC if your child meets the requirements set forth by the institution. I am really looking forward to the experience of having your son/daughter as they grow and learn this year.

I expect attentiveness and respect from my students as I will be giving them the appropriate attention and respect that they deserve in the classroom. I am going to challenge and push them in the math classroom so they are going to have to stay on top of the material that is covered in class. In an effort to help your child prepare for the ACT/SAT and future college classes I will focus on their problem solving skills as well as other math related skills and topics. Please encourage your child to ask questions as they are exploring and working through the material this year. They will have plenty of opportunities to ask questions and meet with me outside of class if they so choose. I will be going over classroom rules in more detail this week.

Your child will need to have a graphing calculator (preferably a TI-83 or TI-84) with them every day. I will be using a TI-83 and/or TI-84 for classroom demonstrations. The calculator will be something that will make their transition to Precalculus and higher levels of math a little easier.

I post my homework to a Google calendar in our Google Classroom at the end of each day. If I give a worksheet as a homework assignment I will link that in my Google Classroom so that the students can download and print them from home. If your student is absent please have them go to Google Classroom as soon as they can so they can see what we did in class that day. Also, please encourage them to get any absent work in as soon as possible, as this will help avoid them feeling overwhelmed and falling behind.

The start of each school year is always a new challenge for all of us, but I am very excited about the new school year and getting to know you and your child. I want to keep open communication between the students and myself as well as you the parent/guardian. In order to do that, feel free to email or call me at anytime. You can reach me by email at [cfirebaugh@mvcisd.us](mailto:cfirebaugh@mvcisd.us) and by phone at 393-5900 ext. 5633. Also, be sure to check Progressbook to see the latest updates on your child's grades and progress in class. Good luck to your child as we start a new school year!

Also, I have attached a page that gives some very important things that your son or daughter can do to be successful in my classroom. If you have a few moments could you please sit down with your son or daughter to go over the syllabus and the things that will help them be successful in my classroom. Once you have completed this task please return it with your son/daughter as this will be their first homework assignment for the year.

Sincerely,

Corey Firebaugh

Here are a few things that you can do to help your student be successful in my classroom:

- 1.) **Come to class prepared.** Have all of the materials you will need with you, including your homework. Completing your homework on time will be key to your success in my classroom. It is the practice that will allow you to improve your mathematical skills.
- 2.) **Take good notes in class.** Writing down the examples we do in class will help you in a number of ways. It will help you learn the mathematical processes, give you something to look back at when you are at home doing homework, and help you prepare for tests and quizzes.
- 3.) **Prepare for test and quizzes correctly.** When preparing for a test or quiz you need to rework problems. Just looking/reading over notes and homework will not be sufficient.

I have read and reviewed Mr. Firebaugh's classroom procedures with my child.

|                          |                                    |             |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| _____                    | _____                              | _____       |
| <b>Parent Signature</b>  | <b>Parent Name (please print)</b>  | <b>Date</b> |
| _____                    | _____                              | _____       |
| <b>Student Signature</b> | <b>Student Name (please print)</b> | <b>Date</b> |

