

Pre-Calculus Syllabus 2015-2016

Instructor: Ms. Martinez

Contact Information: dmartinez@tecsalvord.org

Availability: By Appointment

Course Description:

This course is designed to cover topics in Algebra ranging from polynomial, rational, and exponential functions to conic sections. Trigonometry concepts such as Law of Sines and Cosines will be introduced. Students will then begin analytic geometry and calculus concepts such as limits, derivatives, and integrals.

Assignments:

We will engage in a variety of assignments, in and out of the classroom. Some assignments will be based solely in the Pre-Calculus class, while others will be coordinated with the Learning Expedition. In addition to Expedition work, students will be required to complete the following assignments:

- Daily participation: Do Nows, Note taking, collaborating, and communicating
- Weekly Homework Assignments
- Daily Exit Slips (Ticket Out)
- Chapter Tests
- Cumulative Exam for each Semester

Materials:

Students are required to bring the following material to class:

- 2 inch, 3 ring binder- Not to be used in any other class just math
- Homework folder,
- Graph paper,
- Loose leaf paper,
- College Ruled composition book,
- Pencils/lead pencils,
- Erasers

Projects/Products:

At our school we model the Expeditionary Learning model, students participate in project-based learning that is engaged with audiences beyond the classroom. Projects are a primary structure for in-school learning, teaching core skills and content through classroom lessons, discussions, labs and work sessions, as well as through student research and fieldwork. The products of student projects are typically modeled on real-world documents and artifacts. Products are critiqued by professionals and contribute to a real-world audience.

Portfolio:

All work done in class will be housed in portfolios, which will stay in the classroom. Any work that needs to be done outside the classroom will be taken home in your work folder.

Long Term Learning Targets:

At Tierra Encantada we use Learning Targets to direct our instruction and evaluate proficiency. These Long Term Learning Targets will be addressed throughout the year, with the goal that students will be able to explain their own learning. Learning targets are aligned with the New Mexico and Common Core State Standards.

The Long Term Learning Targets for Pre-Calculus are:

1. I can make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. I can reason abstractly and quantitatively.
3. I can construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
4. I can model with mathematics.
5. I can use appropriate tools strategically.
6. I can attend to precision.
7. I can look for and make use of structure.
8. I can look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

Grading Scale (Academics and Habits of Work):

Tierra Encantada Charter School courses will be built around three to six **LONG TERM LEARNING TARGETS**. A Long Term Learning Target represents the essential things all students must know or be able to do in a course. Learning targets are aligned with New Mexico content standards. An earned grade will indicate progress towards meeting the learning targets. On all rubrics and class assignments, students will receive a number grade between one and four. The numbers will correspond to letter grades in the following way:

A or "4" = DISPLAYS EXCELLENCE IN MEETING LEARNING TARGETS

B or "3" = DISPLAYS PROFICIENCY IN MEETING LEARNING TARGETS

C or "2" = ADEQUATELY MEETS LEARNING TARGETS

I or "0-1" = INSUFFICIENT OR APPROACHES LEARNING TARGETS

For each major assessment, the teacher will develop a *rubric* (a grading plan) that clarifies the criteria that a student will have to meet in order to receive an A, B, or C.

When calculating a cumulative grade, the Long Term targets (based on scores of a multitude of Supporting Targets) will be averaged. Targets may be weighted differently. The average of the Long Term targets will be translated into the following "grades."

4.0- 3.4 = "A"

3.3- 2.7 = "B"

2.6- 1.8 = "C"

Below a 1.7 = "I"

What specifically do these grades say about student achievement?

A = DISPLAYS EXCELLENCE IN MEETING LEARNING TARGETS: An "A" or a "4" indicates the student's work displays *excellence* in meeting a target. When calculating a class grade, for a progress report or the semester, all Long Term targets will be averaged. The "A" range will fall between a 3.3-4.0 (on a 4.0 scale.) *This is a rigorous standard and a passing grade; credit is earned*

B = DISPLAYS PROFICIENCY IN MEETING LEARNING TARGETS: A "B" or a "3" indicates the student's work displays proficiency in meeting a target. When calculating a class grade, for a progress report or the semester, all Long Term targets will be averaged. The "B" range will fall between a 2.6-3.2 (on a 4.0 scale.) *This is a rigorous standard and a passing grade; credit is earned*

C = ADEQUATELY MEETS LEARNING TARGETS: A "C" or a "2" indicates a student has adequately met the target being assessed. It also means the student has significant room for improvement. When calculating a class grade, for a progress report or the semester, all Long Term targets will be averaged. The "C" range will fall between a 2.0-2.5 (on a 4.0 scale.) *This is a passing grade; credit is earned.*

I= Insufficient or approaches learning targets: An "I" is earned when, in the absence of extenuating circumstances (e.g., excused absences), a student does not demonstrate substantive progress towards meeting the learning targets or criteria of a given assessment. This may mean that a student has not met the majority of performance indicators or criteria for that assessment. *This is not a passing grade; no credit is earned*

In exceptional circumstances, an "Incomplete" grade may be granted at the end of semester (e.g., in the event of an extended, excused absence). In this circumstance, a student may be assigned to a remediation course or credit recovery. Review the appropriate section for more information.

Habits of Citizenship:

In addition to academic expectations, Tierra Encantada students are expected to build culture and character through their experiences with Expeditionary Learning. Tierra Encantada has a unique set of expectations to which students will be held accountable. These expectations express the vision of a productive and a courteous community.

Habits of Citizenship	Attending Skills
Quality Worker	Prompt & Prepared
Involved Citizen	Contributes Positively & behaves ethically
Collaborative Worker	Works Actively & cooperatively

Habits of Citizenship will be fostered through learning expeditions and instructional practices, as well as through other activities specifically focused on community building. Students will be graded on these Habits of Citizenship as they are articulated through academic courses, Crew, intensives and any related school activities or events.

Marks for character traits will follow the following grading system:

- 4= Almost all the time
- 3= Most of the time
- 2= About half of the time
- I= Less than half the time/Seldom

STUDENTS WILL RECEIVE TWO GRADES FOR EVERY COURSE;
A GRADE FOR ACADEMICS AND A GRADE FOR HABITS OF CITIZENSHIP.

Electronics Policy:

As we know, we live in a world in which we are surrounded by technology. Every type of technology has its uses and its place in our society. Tierra Encantada has a liberal policy with regard to the use of personal electronics in the classroom. **However, you may not use cell phones in this class. Cell phones will be turned in at the beginning of the classroom to the teacher. If cell phone is being used during the class, the cell phone will be taken away and unavailable for the rest of the day. Second time found on a student, cell phone will be turned into the office. You may not use cell phones, e-readers or tablets for gaming or social networking purposes at any time.**

At Tierra Encantada, we are fortunate to have access to a wide range of technology, both in the classroom as well as in common areas like the Computer Lab. However, when working with technology in the classroom, you must be aware that you are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of that tech. If you intentionally or unintentionally damage or destroy the property of Tierra Encantada Charter School, you may be held financially responsible for those damages, up to and including the full cost of replacement of any device.

Late Work Policy:

I will not accept any late assignments after due date.

Please sign and date in the spaces indicated below

Student Name

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Name

Parent/Guardian Signature