

The Academies at Jonesboro High School

Dr. Kena Gibson

Pre-AP Precalculus

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“Belief in oneself is one of the most important bricks in building any successful venture.”

– Lydia M. Child

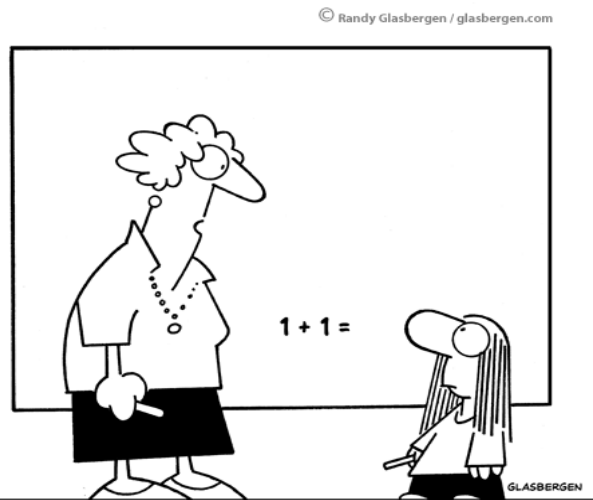
Welcome to our Pre-AP Precalculus class! I am excited to get to know each of you and to guide us through the continuation of our discovery of the infinite world of Mathematics. I am always willing to answer any questions about the concepts at any point during the year. We are in this together, and together we will make improvements in our understanding of mathematics. Adhering to all of the requirements explained in this syllabus will help us reach our full potential.

Course Description:

- Precalculus is a course that expands on the topics of Algebra II and yields the background knowledge needed for Calculus.
- Topics include:
 1. Functions
 2. Trigonometry
 3. Linear Systems and Matrices
 4. Sequences, Series, and Probability
 5. Topics in Analytic Geometry
 6. Analytic Geometry in Three Dimensions
 7. Limits and an Introduction to Calculus

Supplies needed:

- Pencils ONLY
- Erasers
- 3-Ring Binder
- Loose-leaf College Ruled Notebook Paper
- Calculator for Home (Suggestion below)



“Yes, this will be useful to you later in life.”

**If you are purchasing a new calculator, I recommend a TI 84 Plus.
Purchasing a new calculator is *not required*, however, if you plan to further your mathematical education, this calculator will also be useful in college.**

Google Classroom Codes:

Code for **Odd** Blocks – mjfjh4

Code for **Even** Blocks – 5dlc8

Grading Scale:

- A: 90 - 100%
- B: 80 - 89%
- C: 70 - 79%
- D: 60 - 69%
- F: Below 60%

Grading System:

- Classwork/Homework – 20%
- Quizzes/Tests – 80%



Grading Policies:

- You will be graded for mathematical skill, mathematical communication and completeness. You should write explanations, using complete sentences, for most problem situations. *Do **not** just repeat in words the mathematics you have done. Rather, explain the reasons for your process. Use the word "because"!*
- Complete all work in pencil.
- Assignments are due at the beginning of the block the day they are due. All work submitted late will receive half credit at most.
- Be a Person of Integrity –
 - Cheating is **NEVER** acceptable. When cheating is detected, you will earn an automatic zero.
 - Do not allow others to copy your work or you will also earn a zero.
 - Please come to me if you need help completing independent assignments.
- Exams: Exams will be in an AP format and will be timed. They will contain both multiple choice questions and free response questions. Exams will also contain both calculator and non-calculator portions. There will be a test at the end of each unit.
- Quizzes: There will be several quizzes within each unit to help show your understanding.

Make-Up Policies:

- Make-up Work and Assessments – If you miss an assignment, quiz, or test for any reason it is your responsibility to make up what you missed.

Classroom Expectations:

Every day, everyone is expected to meet these overarching expectations:

1. **Work Hard** – Achieve the BIG GOAL of mastering as many Algebra II concepts as possible!
2. **Be Nice** – Team beats the individual.

Within these two expectations, there are specific rules each student is expected to follow:

Work Hard:

- Be Prepared –
 - Come to class with prior knowledge, necessary assignments, and materials.
 - All hardcopy work you turn in should include your full name, date, and class period.
- Be Punctual – Please arrive on time, sit in your assigned seat, and retrieve your class materials.

- Be Professional –
 - The way you behave in class should demonstrate your ability to show professionalism.
 - Gum and all other trash should be placed in the trashcan.
 - Please push your chairs in when you leave your seat.
 - Return your calculator to the charging dock when you leave the classroom.
 - Take care of all personal business (using the restroom, ect.) **before** coming to class. If you think you will be tardy, ask permission before the tardy bell.
 - Always ask permission before leaving the classroom. Record the date and where you are going time on the sign out log.
 - Participate in discussions, catch mistakes, ask questions, and take good notes.
 - Treat our classroom calculators as if they were your most prized possessions.
- Use all class time wisely.
 - Do not work on assignments for other classes unless permission is given.
 - I dismiss you from class, **not** the bell. Stay on task and seated until I give directions to pack away materials and leave the classroom.
- Use of technology in the classroom is strictly under my discretion.
 - Set all forms of technology aside during class unless I instruct you to do otherwise.

Be Nice:

- One Mic – When an individual is speaking to the class, whether it is the teacher, a student or a substitute teacher, **everyone** else is expected to remain silent.
- Safe Space – Be respectful of others feelings, personal space, and belongings at all times.
 - Bullying, in any form, **will not** be tolerated in my classroom.
 See the Academics at JHS Student Handbook for the complete policy on bullying.

Ms. Gibson's Big 3:

1. Creating and maintaining a safe space in the classroom.
2. Using **all** class time wisely.
3. Using technology **only** when I give directions or permission to do so.

I will do everything I can to help you succeed; however, I cannot do the work for you. You have to help yourself! Do all you are capable of doing to ensure your success and you will see the impossible become possible.

Disclaimer: This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of Ms. Gibson and there may be other rules or procedures that may be implemented during the course of the year.