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**Pre-Algebra**

**Ms. Simonsen**

Website: [simonsenmath.weebly.com](https://simonsenmath.weebly.com/)

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Remind 101 instructions will be available on website under CONTACT Page

**Course Description**

The purpose of the course is to deepen students’ understanding of concepts learned in previous years, as well as to extend and formalize students’ understanding of these concepts to ensure student success throughout their mathematics careers. Topics include the number system, proportional relationships, congruence and similarity, the Pythagorean Theorem, volume, statistics and probability, and applications of these concepts to solve problems. Students will be prepared for their upcoming Algebra and Geometry classes following completion of this course.

**Materials** (required in class everyday)

- 3 ring binder designated for math class

- Composition notebook (notebooks can be purchased from me for $1)

- pencil/pen (blue or black ink **only**)

- lined paper

\*\*Other materials we will use in class will include: calculators, rulers, protractors, compasses, graph paper, colored pencils, etc. You are welcome to have your own, but it is not required.

**Classroom Expectations**

* Above all, show respect to all others and their property, including yourself.
* Come to class prepared to learn and with all necessary materials needed to do so. (See Materials list)
* Show integrity by being in your seat at the beginning of class starting the opener activity listed on the board, being attentive and participating during class time, and remaining in your seat during instruction.
* Class rules will be discussed, and students are expected to follow all school-wide rules at all times.

**Highlighted School Rules**

* Only water allowed in the classroom, in a water bottle with a *good* lid.
* A student is tardy if they are not in their seat with materials ready *WHEN CLASS BEGINS*. Tardiness

will result in a 15 minute detention.

* 3 Strikes-You’re-Out Policy. If a student disrupts the class 3 times, disciplinary action will be taken.
* School dress code will be enforced at all times.

**Participation**

Participating in classroom activities is essential to understanding the concepts that we are learning in class. Every minute of class time counts, and all students are expected to treat time in class as such. Many of the activities in class will be turned in for credit, and participating in all class activities will ensure students receive full credit for their work. Any behavior that takes away from an opportunity for learning (either of themselves or others) will result in disciplinary action. See Consequences Policy for more information.

**Your Grade Composition**

30% - Homework/In Class Assignments

25% - Quizzes

30% - Tests

15% - Final Exam

* Late work will receive no more than 50% credit. Students have a maximum of 5 school days after the due date to turn in late work.
* If the student is absent, it is their responsibility to collect makeup work OUTSIDE OF CLASS. “What did I miss?” and “Can I get the notes?” are NOT acceptable questions in class. These questions need to be addressed at a time when it is not detracting from students’ learning time.
* Makeup quizzes and exams must be scheduled for before school, during lunch, or after school. They must be completed at school and proctored by a teacher.
* Unexcused Absences: Students cannot make up points from unexcused absences, including exams

\*\*The same letter grade scale will be used as outlined in the Alpine Academy Student Handbook.

\*\*It is your responsibility to keep track of your grade on Infinite Campus. If you have a question or concern about your grade, please reach out to me via email, Remind, or in person. Parents of students who fall below a C-, will be contacted to be informed of student’s progress.

**Homework and In-Class Assignments**

Homework and in-class work are formative assignments that help form your knowledge of the topics we are studying. They will often be graded on completion and effort rather than correctness. Some of the students’ work in class will be done in groups, while homework assignments should be completed individually. Homework may consist of questions that simply have you reflect on the concepts we are learning in class, and will be followed by content questions that will extend your thinking from class or help you to practice skills from each day’s objective.

Assignments will have variable due dates and point values, and will be given the day the assignment is given.

\*\*Late assignments will only earn half credit.\*\*

**Computer Lab/Computer Usage**

During times when the class is working with the school’s laptops or in the computer lab, students are expected to follow all school rules as laid out in the Student Handbook. Downloading programs or altering the computer in any way will result in disciplinary action.

**Make-up Work/Absences**

Homework assignments and any missed notes will be placed in binder on the table at the back of the room, as well as on my website: simonsenmath.weebly.com. You will be given the number of days you were absent, plus one day to turn in missing assignments. Assignments and makeup quizzes/tests from previous quarters will not be accepted after each 9 week period.

**Quizzes/Tests**

Upcoming dates for quizzes and tests will be located on the white board under Announcements, along with the day's objective and homework assignments due. Quiz and test scores may be improved, by correcting ALL problems marked incorrect on original quiz/test, and scheduling a time to take a quiz/test retake.

\*\*If you are absent for a quiz or test, you will have to make it up during lunch, before or after school (by appointment), on the day you return.

**Mini White Boards**

We may use white boards on occasion in class so I can quickly check your understanding of the material.

\*\*White boards are NOT for drawing on, writing on, or for any other use other than to show your understanding of the material. Any misuse of the white board will result in disciplinary action (See Consequences Policy for more information).

**Seating Arrangements & Passes**

Classroom seating arrangements are important to follow as they are used to take attendance, and will change periodically throughout the semester. You are to be in your seat at the beginning of class time, and are expected to get to work immediately. You are also to remain in your seat during instruction as to not interrupt others' learning. If you want to sharpen your pencil, check for missing assignments or come to my desk for questions, it must be done before class or at an appropriate time during class (upon teacher permission).

\*\*Passes to leave class will be given in your 1st period classroom at the beginning of each week. You are expected to come to class prepared to learn, but may use passes to leave the class if the circumstances are pertinent.

**Cell Phone Policy**

Cell phone use will follow school guidelines, and cell phones will not be allowed to be used in class. Any cell phones will result in the phone being taken from students and given to administration. NO EXCEPTIONS!

**Consequences Policy**

In my classroom, respect is the first and most important rule for a reason. Every single one of you can learn in my classroom, and any behavior that inhibits yours or another's ability to learn will be considered as an offense. Tardiness will result in a 15 minute detention, including students not seated at the beginning of class, and all other interruptions will result in the following

1st Offense:Verbal warning.

2nd Offense:Name written on the board as a visual warning.

3rd Offense:Check mark put next to name and 15 minute detention, as per school guidelines; parent contact.

4th Offense:Immediate referral to administration, parent contact and meeting in order to discuss resolution, and a 45 minute detention, as per school guidelines.

**Helpful suggestions to succeed in Math**

**Try the homework the same night it is assigned because it was discussed that day. That way if you get stuck you can ask questions the next day before it is due.**

**Look over the section examples for extra notes in the textbook, You-tube, Khan Academy, etc.**

**Try to stay focused during class and use every minute. Don’t get distracted by your peers.**

**Ask questions. Don’t suffer in silence.**

**Use lunch time, before or after school time, to get extra help from me.**

**I am available before school, during lunch, and after school. (Check with me about after school times in case I have conferences/meetings).**

**Don’t get behind in your assignments. Pay attention to due dates/deadlines.**

**Ms. Simonsen reserves the right to change policies at any time, for any reason. Students will be sent home with any modifications for parent verification of any policy changes.**

This syllabus, along with the signed verification form, serves as a contract between the student, parents/guardians, and the teacher for the school year.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. I’m very excited for this school year!!

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…..ONLY RETURN THIS SECTION TO CLASS…..

Student Name (PRINT): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

My signature below indicates that I have read, understood, and will abide by the rules and expectations defined in Ms. Simonsen’s classroom.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Email Address #: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Parent Contact Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email Address #: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_