

Algebra 1

Fall 2014-Spring 2015

Mr. Leal

- ▲ **Course Description**- The content of Algebra 1 is designed to give students the requisite skills that provide a foundation for all future mathematics courses. Topics are organized around families of functions with special emphasis on linear and quadratic functions. As you study each family of functions, you will learn to represent them in multiple ways – as verbal descriptions, equations, tables and graphs. You will also learn to model real-world situations using functions in order to solve problems arising from those situations. Students will also explore writing and solving linear equations, powers and exponents, quadratic equations, polynomials and factoring, graphing and solving linear inequalities, and geometry.

- ▲ **Classroom Vision**- Mr. Leal intends for students to learn Algebra by exploring problems, calculating and verifying answers, and representing problems and answers in multiple ways (symbolically, graphically, verbally, numerically); We will build the mathematical foundation needed to succeed in school as well as the real world. Here, we make good things happen!

- ▲ **Materials**
 - McDougal Littell Algebra 1 textbook (School issued)
 - 2 Pencils (mechanical pencil preferred)
 - 1 red pen
 - Composition Notebook
 - Glue stick
 - Folder for handouts
 - 1½ inch binder (may be provided)
 - **[OPTIONAL]** TI-84+ graphing calculator; Class set will be available for use. This calculator will be used throughout your high school career.

- ▲ **Classroom Expectations**- Students are expected to abide by the rules and codes of conduct of Bellaire High School and the Houston Independent School District. Students are expected to attend class everyday ready for the lesson. As well as the norms of the school, students are expected to follow the rules of the classroom set forth by Mr. Leal. Failure to comply with the classroom expectations will result in consequences and disciplinary actions in compliance with the Student Handbook of Bellaire High School and HISD's Code of Student Conduct. Further action or implementation of consequences is at the discretion of the teacher.

- ▲ **Classroom Procedures**-
 - **Entrance**: at the start of class, students will walk in and collect any graded handouts as well as the lesson handouts. Students should begin with the daily warm up, copying the objective down, working **silently**
 - **Introduction to new material**: students will listen silently to the lesson content of the day. Notes are to be taken at this time in the handouts or notebook
 - **Guided Practice**: Students will work on examples and practice problems with the teacher. Conversation and checks for understanding will take place at this time.
 - **Independent Practice**: students will work on their own or with partners (in accordance to the lesson) to gain further mastery of the lesson's content. Checks for understanding will take place
 - **Closing**: Students will be assessed on their grasp and understanding of the lesson with an exit ticket

- ▲ **Attendance**-Attendance will be taken every day.
 - **Tardiness**: Tardiness will not be accepted! If a student arrives late to class, a tardy pass will be required. Excessive tardiness will result in disciplinary action. If a student is not present in class before the first 15 minutes of the class, the student will be marked absent.
 - **Absence**: Students that are absent will be required to make up any work missed on the day of the absence. It is their responsibility to submit their work within the time frame expressed in the Bellaire High School Student Handbook. Any late work submitted due to an excused absence must be accompanied by a note of a parent/teacher/organization relating to the absence. **NO WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM UNEXCUSED ABSENCES.**

- ▲ **Grading**- the following is a breakdown of the grading scale
 - **Classwork and Homework: 15%**
 - Homework will be assigned almost every day. It is the responsibility of the student to complete the homework. In order to receive any credit, **students must show work**, written in a logical manner. Students will also be graded on their performance, completion, and understanding of the day's lesson. Absent students are required to make up classwork assignments and homework to receive credit for anything missed. See section labeled ABSENCE on the syllabus if absent.
 - **Quizzes: 25%**
 - Quizzes may be given intermittently between tests. They will be announced on the calendar, if one is provided. Quizzes are not subject to make-up (unless if absent) or corrections.
 - **Tests: 60%**
 - Tests are used to assess student mastery of topics in Algebra 1. Reviews will be given by the Tuesday of the week of test. Tests will be given on Thursdays (math testing day for the entire department). Students understand that the exam comprises rigor on par and beyond the state standard of geometry. Retakes are limited to one per grading cycle. Retakes must be scheduled by the student and require a completed test review, a lunch tutorial as well as submitted test corrections. Retakes are offered Fridays from 3:30-4:30 at different math classrooms based on a rotating schedule (when scheduling a retake consult Mr. Leal about location). The highest grade that can be awarded on retakes is a 70
 (**Modification students see Mr. Leal**)
 - **Semester Average**- the semester average is calculated by averaging the three 6-Weeks grades with the result of the mid-term(fall)/final exam(spring)
 - **Extra Credit**- Extra credit will be offered at the discretion of the teacher. A student must have completed 75% or more of the homework assignments of the grading cycle.

****NO EXTRA CREDIT WILL BE OFFERED THE WEEK BEFORE ANY GRADES ARE DUE****

- ▲ **Tutorials**- Tutorials are TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY during lunch or afterschool unless specified
 - Students receiving mandatory lunch tutorials must comply with the time frame and work on their math assignment or task mediated by the teacher to receive credit for the tutorial.
- ▲ **Contact**- Mr. Leal is located in room 131.
 - **Email**: sleal@houstonisd.org
 - I have read, and I understand the class policies for Geometry (sign and print your name)

X _____	Student Name: _____
X _____	Parent Name: _____
The best way I can be contacted is (phone/email): _____	