**Algebra 1**

Ryan Hoerner

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is a basic preparation for most math, science and technical courses. It is highly recommended for all students who plan to attend a 2 or 4 year college. The course emphasizes linear equations, linear inequalities, and operations with polynomials, linear systems, quadratic equations, and irrational numbers. Word problems are taught throughout the course. The student is expected to put forth consistent, daily effort and steadily improve his/her study skills. (TI83 Plus or TI84 will be required for Algebra 2).

**MATERIAL**

* Pencil
* Scientific Calculator, or TI-83/84
* 3 Ring Binder
* Loose leaf paper or Notepad (Used ONLY for Algebra I)

**INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES**

Instructional strategies that will be used in this course, but are not limited to are: direct instruction, active participation, graphic organizers, presentation, cooperative learning, probing questions, questioning strategies, student projects, technology, note taking, modeling.

**GRADING & ASSESSMENTS**

**Summative and Formative** – 75% of the grade

*Formative:* These may be announced or unannounced. The goal of each formative assessment is to look at a specific goal or topic and measure the understanding and growth of the goal or topic in a condensed approach. Formative assessments will be given within class and also assigned as homework. These assessments are to help strengthen/grow the student’s knowledge base and prepare them for the summative assessment. Not all formative assessments are counted towards the individual’s final grade.

*Summative:* These will be unit and final term tests. The goal of each summative assessment is to look at the accumulation of the growth and understanding of each student within a section or term. Summative assessments will always be announced in advance. As a general rule, no summative assessment will be allowed to be retaken.

**Term Final** – 25% of the grade

*Final:* A final test will be given at the end of each term. The final test will be accumulative for each term(s).

**Grading Scale:**

93.0 – 100% A

90.0 – 92.99 A-

87.0 – 89.99 B+

83.0 – 86.99 B

80.0 – 82.99 B-

77.0 – 79.99 C+

73.0 – 76.99 C

70.0 – 72.99 C-

67.0 – 69.99 D+

63.0 – 66.99 D

60.0 – 62.99 D-

Below 60% F

Please keep track of your scores so that you can figure your own grade at any time.

(It’s a math thing – you can do it!!)

**ABSENCES**

* If you miss class FOR ANY REASON it is your responsibility to get the assignment. Be sure to pick up anything that you may have missed when you were absent.
* If you miss class on a test/quiz day, you will be expected to take the test/quiz on the day you return to school. If you miss the day before a previously announced test/quiz, you will be expected to take the test/quiz with the rest of your class. If you miss more than one day I will work with you to make other arrangements.
* Problems with absences (excused or unexcused) or tardies will be handled according to the Western Dubuque High School attendance policy.

**GETTING HELP**

Working together is strongly encouraged. (Copying is not.) You will find that you can learn a lot from each other. If you are having trouble with Algebra I, you need to get help IMMEDIATELY. Remember, I am here to help you if you want to be helped. Feel free to see me if any problems arise or you need any extra help. There are also opportunities throughout the school year to gain help outside the school year. Make sure to ask if extra help is something that would interest you and guidance will be given.

## BEHAVIORAL/ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

Respect school property, others and their property, the right of others to learn, the teacher, and yourself

*Additional guidelines:*
1. Know the student handbook.  If it is in there, it applies in here. (Code of Conduct, Cheating, Etc…)
2. Take care of personal business between classes.
3. Be in your seat ready to work when the bell rings.

4. Respect yourself, your peers, and the adults in the classroom

**RESOURSES**

There are many resources to further your knowledge in every topic in this course. Many of these resources will be discussed in class but will also be found at <http://wdubuque.esvbeta.com/RyanHoerner.aspx>. If using online help, let Mr. Hoerner know so that he can confirm that the content is valid and appropriate for the class.

**COMMUNICATION**

The best way to contact me with any questions or concerns is via email rhoerner@dbqschools.org. You may also reach me by phone at 563-876-3442 etx: 3076. Messages left will be returned as soon as possible. I also update Campus Gradebook after every test or quiz we take within a day or two of the assessment. It is a great way to keep track of your or your child’s grade.