



Foundations in Algebra
2024-2025
Lisa Hall
Email: lhall@staff.gtchs.org
Office Hours Mondays from 2:50-3:30 (Additional days offered as needed)

Course Description:

This algebra course is the backbone of high school mathematics. Foundational algebra builds on the knowledge and skills that have been mastered in earlier grades like algebraic thinking, probability, data analysis, and proportional reasoning. It is a foundational year of algebra that is important for success in upcoming mathematic classes. My goal is to **make math make sense!** We will be working together to become problem solvers and to see how algebra is relevant and useful in today's world.

Classroom Materials

- 2-3 Composition notebooks
- Folder or section in a 3-ring binder (any place to organize loose homework, quizzes, or test papers)
- Multiple glue sticks (these will be collected in class)
- Pencils/erasers
- Dry erase markers (these will be collected in class)
- Calculator (TI 83 or 84) highly recommended
- Plug-in earbuds (for all classes)

Grading Policies:

The grading scale in South Carolina is below:

A: 90-100

B: 80-89

C: 70-79

D: 60-69

F: 59 and below

As part of GTCHS policy, **students must earn a 75% or higher to pass the course.**

GTCHS is a mastery learning school and opportunities will be given to improve grades. If students receive less than a 75% on a test, they may improve their grade by attending office hours and/or completing a remediation assignment. AFTER that, students may take a retest and/or complete test corrections. Failure to complete the additional tutoring or assignment and/or show up on the designated Monday to retest or complete test corrections will result in the original grade becoming permanent. Students may earn a maximum grade of 75% on a retest. Other opportunities for improvement will be given at the teacher's discretion. Any student with a class grade less than 75% is recommended to come for tutoring during office hours on Mondays from 2:50-3:30. Individual or small group help will be given during office hours.

Grading will be broken down as follows:

Tests/Projects: 40%

Quizzes: 25%

Homework: 20%

Classwork/Aleks: 15%

Dates for tests and projects are given approximately one week in advance. Quizzes are assigned one or two class periods ahead of time. If homework is partially done, the student will receive partial credit. Work must be shown to receive credit (this is always modeled in class). All assignments, quizzes, and tests will be loaded into Google Classroom for the student to see and check any due dates. The exam at the end of the semester will be 10% of the class average. At the end of the school year (after Intermediate Algebra), students will take an EOC (end-of-course exam) that is worth 20% of the final grade.

Completing work on time is important to the success of the student. **Late homework is not accepted.** The student's homework grade is a zero if it is not turned in on time. If a student is absent, you have five school days (not class meetings) after you return to school to make up missed work. Make-up work will not be accepted after this time. It is

the student's responsibility to see Mrs. Hall when absent to receive any missing work. The lesson notes and assignment will be posted on Google Classroom daily.

Gum, Food, or Drinks in Class:

Students may have water or other school appropriate drinks as long as it is in a container with a lid. Gum is prohibited in class. Food (including candy) is not allowed unless approved by Mrs. Hall.

Cell Phone/Electronic Policy:

Cell phones and other electronic devices are to be put away (not in sight!) and either silenced or powered off during class time unless given permission by the teacher. If a cell phone is out during class, it may be collected and given to administration to be picked up by a parent. Cell phones are not allowed to be taken to the bathroom.

Classroom Rules:

1. Be respectful.

It is expected that all students are respectful both to each other and the teacher. Disrespect includes interrupting during instruction, bullying in any form, and talking back or arguing with the teacher. This disrupts the learning environment of the classroom and will not be tolerated in any way. Being respectful also includes how we treat the environment where we are learning. Vandalizing desks or other student's property is not allowed.

2. Be prepared.

Being prepared for class means all materials should be present in class (including homework) and ready to be used. It is also expected that you are on time to class each day and in your seat before the bell rings. The bathroom should be used between classes and at lunch if possible.

3. Be engaged.

We will be working from bell-to-bell during class. It is expected that you are an active participant. Refusing to work or sleeping during class is not an option. If you are sleeping in class, you will be asked to stand for the remainder of class time in order to stay awake.

4. Be honest.

I expect my students to be honest with me personally as a teacher as well as on your assignments. **Copying homework is cheating.** (It is okay to ask for help from a teacher, student, or parent but NOT okay to copy someone else's work.) All assignments turned in must be the student's own work. If a student is caught

cheating, the grade will result in a zero or another appropriate punishment. It is also considered cheating if you give your homework to someone else to copy.

The following consequences are used when a student fails to follow the rules listed above:

- Verbal warning
- After class conference
- Parent contact or conference
- Detention
- Referral (any severe problems can result in an immediate referral)

I am excited about having you in my class and all of us having a great year of learning! Attitude is everything and if you keep a positive attitude and work hard this year, it will make a huge difference.

This syllabus will be posted on my school website and in Google Classroom. Please feel free to visit my website or email me with any questions you may have. Email is usually the quickest way to hear back from me.

Contact Info:

Mrs. Lisa Hall

School Phone: 864-250-8844 ext. 8951

Email: lhall@staff.gtchs.org

Website: <https://sc50000025.schoolwires.net/Page/306>

My student and I have read through the **Foundations in Algebra** syllabus. I will email Mrs. Hall about any questions.

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Student signature: _____ Date: _____