



Mathematics Disclosure
Pre-Algebra – Coach Mitchell – Room 107
www.coachmitchellmath.com

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The major emphases of the Pre-Algebra course are rational numbers, proportionality, measurement, data collection and analysis, probability, and beginning algebra concepts that serve as a transition into formal algebra and geometry. Students will develop a deep understanding of rational number concepts, become proficient in rational number computation, and learn to think flexibly about relationships among fractions, decimals, and percents. Concepts involving rational numbers will be developed through experience with problems involving a range of topics. Knowledge of proportionality concepts is developed through extensive applications of ratio and proportion, percent, similarity, scaling, and slope of linear equations. Students will learn to recognize and generate equivalent expressions as well as solve one- or two-step single variable equations and inequalities. Students will investigate geometric relationships by drawing, measuring, visualizing, comparing, transforming, and classifying geometric objects. Important aspects of measurement will include selecting and using appropriate units and scales. Students will formulate questions; design studies; and collect, organize, and interpret data. Students will develop simple probabilities by using experimentation and analysis of possible outcomes. While mathematical skills will be developed, teaching will focus on the understanding of concepts in depth, thus enabling students to apply mathematical skills and make meaningful connections to life's experiences. Students should see mathematics as an exciting, useful, and creative field of study

COURSE GOALS

- Develop and master basic skills and concepts in algebra and/or geometry.
- Improve relating math skills to daily life.
- Give students every opportunity to succeed in mathematics.
- Cover the Utah State Core Curriculum.

GRADING SCALE

Explanation of Student Grades:

A+	99% - 100%
A	93% - 98%
A-	90% - 92%
B+	87% - 89%
B	83% - 86%
B-	80% - 82%
C+	77% - 79%
C	73% - 76%
C-	70% - 72%
D+	67% - 69%
D	63% - 66%
D-	60% - 62%
F	Below 60%

All students are expected to complete nightly homework assignments. All work must be shown to receive any credit on homework assignments. Any student caught cheating or plagiarizing another student's work will receive a zero for that assignment and an "N" for citizenship.

Criteria for Calculating Students Grades:

Tests and Quizzes	65% of each nine-week grading period
Homework	25% of each nine-week grading period
Notebook	5% of each nine-week grading period
Participation	5% of each nine-week grading period

*NOTE: Citizenship grades are given quarterly. This grade is based on my evaluation of you as a cooperative, contributing member of the class. Things considered are attitude, attention, punctuality, courtesy, behavior, participation, and preparation. Excessive tardies will negatively affect your citizenship grade.

COURSE INFORMATION

Homework will be assigned nightly and checked daily when you come into class, unless otherwise specified. Homework will be assigned from the book, so books must be brought to class each day.

Tests and Quizzes will be administered throughout each chapter to assess the students understanding of the materials being taught. There will be both announced and unannounced quizzes.

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS/HOMEWORK

- All assignments must be done on notebook paper and must show all work.
- Properly label all work in the **upper right hand corner**:
 - First and Last Name
 - Page and Problems
 - Date
 - Period
- Homework will be accepted late for **half** credit, unless you are absent.
- Makeup Work: Students need to check the makeup calendar on the day of their return from an absence (website calendar). Students will have five days to make up any missed regular class work. In the event of a student missing a test, the student must contact the teacher on the first day back to schedule an appointment for a time to make up the missed test. It is solely the student's responsibility to gather any missed work and complete it.

COURSE TEXT

Pre-Algebra by Glencoe, McGraw-Hill

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- #2 Pencil and eraser
- Notebook used for this class only (recommend composition notebook)
- Textbook
- Calculator (an inexpensive scientific calculator will work fine)

CLASSROOM GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

- All Orion Junior High School/WSD policies will be enforced in this classroom.
- Instruction and class activities begin when the tardy bell rings and ends when the dismissal bell rings. Avoid "packing up" before class ends and remember the teacher dismisses class, not the bell.
- Students will remain in class the entire period. Passes will be given only in emergency situations. Remember to use the restroom between classes.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

The following guidelines and procedures will be discussed in class as a group to ensure compliance by all students.

I intend on having a classroom that is flexible, fun, and entertaining. However we both have a job to do, mine is to teach and yours is to learn. In order for us to accomplish our goals this year, there must be some sense of order in the classroom. Therefore, we have the following guidelines and procedures that everyone must abide by:

- Be in your assigned seat and working on the warm-up activity by the time the final bell rings. Do not be late! This will affect your citizenship grade and result in possible punishment.
- Everyone must stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and everyone must be quiet during our moment of silence and school announcements.
- If you would like to speak, raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged.
- Do not talk while I am talking and do not interrupt others when they are speaking.
- Keep the classroom neat and clean – throw away all trash before leaving and properly return all materials to the appropriate place.
- When the dismissal bell sounds, remember that I dismiss you – the bell does not!
- Inappropriate language will not be tolerated.
- Be prepared – have your supplies with you everyday.
- **NO SLEEPING ANYTIME.**
- Being disrespectful to the teacher or another student will not be tolerated.
- No hats, walkmans, ipods, beepers, or cell phones are allowed on campus – do not bring them to class.
- No food, gum, or beverages of any kind are allowed in the classroom.

TO MAINTAIN FAIR AND CONSISTENT TREATMENT FOR EVERYONE IN OUR CLASSROOM, A BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT PLAN THAT IS PROGRESSIVE IN NATURE WILL BE UTILIZED THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR. THE FOLLOWING IS AN EXAMPLE OF ACTIONS THAT MAY BE TAKEN:

- **NON-VERBAL AND/OR VERBAL CUES TO THE STUDENT**
- **TEACHER/STUDENT CONFERENCE**
- **PARENT CONTACT**
- **REFER TO OFFICE**

NOTE: If any behavior is considered extremely disruptive or disrespectful, all of the above warning can be forgone in place of an immediate referral to the office.

Mr. Mitchell can be reached at Orion Junior High School by calling 452-4722 or by e-mail at cumitchell@weber.k12.ut.us. You can also log onto www.coachmitchellmath.com for all the current class information

