

ALGEBRA 2 COURSE OVERVIEW

Mr. Thompson
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206-546-7241

King's High
2010-2011

Course Objectives:

1. Provide a complete study of second-year algebra skills and concepts.
2. Preparation for further study of higher level mathematics.
3. Develop study skills necessary to be a highly successful high school and college student by learning to be a self-regulated learner:
 - Note taking
 - Time management strategies
 - Math text book use

Homework Page:

- <http://www.mhthompson.com> and visit the Algebra 2 page.

Extra Help (We all need it at one time or another!):

- Office hours 7:00am – 8:00am, 3:30pm – 5:00pm (pre-arranged is highly preferred)
- Call me at home in the evenings until 10pm at (206)542-1601
- Use the online homework tracking “Call me, I need help!” button.

Textbook:

- Heath Algebra 2

Special Requirements:

- TI-83 plus, or TI-84 plus calculator
- Graphing paper
- Red ink pen (for correcting homework)
- Computer with internet access
- 1” 3-ring binder for study skills portfolio

Grading:

50% tests (chapter and term)	10% chapter quizzes
25% homework	5% study skills
10% classroom behavior and participation	

Course Topics:

Algebra	Study Skills
Chapter 1: Review of basic algebra	Becoming a Self-Regulated Learner
Chapter 2: Linear equations	Effective note taking
Chapter 3: Systems of linear equations/inequalities	Time management strategies
Chapter 5: Quadratic equations	Effective use & reading of a math text
Chapter 6: Functions	Becoming metacognitive
Chapter 7: Powers, roots and radicals	Tracking self-efficacy to self-monitor
Chapter 9: Polynomials and polynomial functions	
Chapter 10: Rational functions	

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Classroom Rules:

1. Be in your seat, working on warm-up exercise when the bell rings.
2. Bring textbook, homework and all materials to class.
3. Follow directions the first time they are given.
4. Respect your fellow students' right to a quiet & productive learning environment.
5. Mr. Thompson dismisses the class, not the bell or clock.

As always, the school's student conduct expectations are upheld. See the *School Handbook for Parents and Students* for more detail.

Classroom Procedures:

- Homework
 - All work is to be done in pencil, including quizzes and tests.
 - Assignments are due at the beginning of next class unless stated otherwise.
 - You learn math by doing math ... your home work assignments are important!
- Late work
 - NO LATE work will be accepted unless a student has an excused absence or uses a GRACE COUPON.
 - Depending on the number of days of excused absences, students will receive the same number of days to make up the work missed.
 - Students will receive 2 GRACE COUPONS to be used for late homework. The entire day's late homework will be accepted ONE day late only, with one GRACE COUPON attached. Students will self-correct the allowed late homework during individual/group work time in class.
 - Once both GRACE COUPONS are used, late work receives a zero. NO EXCEPTIONS. Each unused GRACE COUPON earns the student 1 point grace on the final test.
- Absences and Tardiness
 - The school's absence & tardiness policies are followed. See the *School Handbook for Parents and Students* for more detail.
 - Be responsible - find out what you missed and make it up.
- Asking for help
 - There is NO such thing a dumb question; better to ask than not understand!
 - Group work will be emphasized - explaining a concept to another student is a great way to master it. Learn from each other!
 - Check the homework help page on Mr. Thompson's website.
 - I am here to serve; please feel free to contact me at anytime. Email is usually the best.
- Use it and lose it
 - Cell phones, iPods, the like ... use it in class and you lose it for the day.
 - Cell phones *SEEN* during a test may result in a failing grade for that test.

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Dear Parents and students,

Please review, sign and return this to me by Friday, January 28th.

I believe an important key to your student's success is that the three critical members of this learning team are on the same page. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Up-to-date contact information is always available on my website <http://www.mhthompson.com>. Thank you for your support and I look forward to a fun and successful year in our Algebra 2 course.

Printed Student Name: _____

I have reviewed and understand the class overview, rules, procedures and Mr. Thompson's classroom management plan.

Parent: _____ Date: _____

Student: _____ Date: _____

Teacher: _____ Date: _____