

Course Description

Accelerated Math 8 is a two-semester core class focused on building foundational mathematics and providing students with an investigative approach to learning. This curriculum for ninth grade helps students to learn essential math concepts by utilizing interactive problems from everyday situations. Students will be introduced to a wide variety of math topics, including exponential equations, linear algebra, systems of equations, and quadratics as outlined by the Common Core Math Standards. Time permitting; topics to be added will also include fractional geometry. The majority of class time will be spent increasing the depth of student understanding through investigation of selected topics, personal problem solving practice, communication, and teamwork skills.

This course will be modified as appropriate to meet the needs of identified IEP, TAG, and 504 students. These modifications will take into account both the level and rate of learning for individual students.

Classroom & Behavioral Expectations

My classroom expectation is to provide a safe and welcoming environment that encourages student learning and promotes mutual respect towards classmates. Student involvement in classroom rules and procedures is essential to adherence throughout the school year. I expect students to try their best, regularly attend class, come prepared to learn, treat others with respect, and ask for help when needed (before, during or after class). Student compliance of school rules and policies (as outlined in the student handbook) in addition to classroom guidelines and expectations is important to providing a safe learning environment.

Grading Philosophy

My expectation is that students come to class ready to learn and participate. Failure to complete class work may require additional time outside of school, but homework will be graded based on accuracy and students will have to opportunity to correct any missed problems for full credit. Any questions or concerns over the homework will be addressed the following class period. Tests and quizzes will comprise a large portion of their grade, but retakes and instructor assistance may be available. Students will be graded on a number of standards that can be found on the district web site and on our classroom walls. Students are expected to work to their full, individual potential. Grades will be based on a 100-point scale as follows:

****Continued on the Back****

I have read the above and agree. Keep the upper section for your records.

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Class Period _____

Full Student Name _____ **Student Signature** X _____

Guardian Name _____ **Guardian Signature** X _____

Personal Work

Parent email address _____ @ _____

Please write neatly: emails need to be exact!

Phone Numbers: **Home:** _____ **Cell:** _____ **Work:** _____

Best time(s) to reach a guardian: _____ **(Other comments?)** _____

A	90% - 100%
B	80% - 89%
C	70% - 79%
D	60% - 69%
F	Below 60%

Grading will be weighted accordingly: **70% Unit Tests, 10% Quizzes and 20% Daily Work & Homework.**

- Daily Warm-Ups
- Homework
- Classwork (Completed in Spiral Notebooks)

Progress Checks

To regularly monitor your student's grade, I encourage you to use the Parent/StudentVUE program located on the Houck Middle School website. Feel free to contact the office to obtain login information. Additionally, progress reports will be sent home **every three weeks** to student's earning grades below a "C".

Unexcused Absences or Illness

Assignments and/or exams missed as a result of an unexcused absence will not be made available to students until the absence is excused. Prior notification of your student's absence is appreciated. Parents wishing to excuse previously unexcused absences need to contact to office to make arrangements.

In addition to the above guidelines, please refer to our student handbook for general expectations and procedures. If you have any questions or concern, please feel free to call the school at (503) 399-3446 and leave a message. I will return your call as soon as possible.

Behavior and Work Habit Expectations

Citizenship Grades	Work Habit Grades
O: Student ALWAYS is on task, has materials and participates in class and group discussions.	O: Assignments are turned in by the assigned due date and there are NO missing assignments.
S: Student CONSISTENTLY is on task, has materials and participates in class and group discussions, with few exceptions.	S: Assignments are turned in on time with 1-2 exceptions.
N: Student is on task, has materials and participates in class and group discussion, with multiple reminders.	N: Assignments are not consistently turned in on time. Student has 3-4 late assignments and/or missing work.
U: Student RARELY is on task and is routinely unprepared.	U: There are 5 or more late or missing assignments.

Required Math Supplies List

- 2 inch 3-ring binder
- 3-ring Pencil Pouch
- Pencils (#2)
- College Ruled Notebook Paper
- Subject Dividers with Tabs

