

Geometry Syllabus
Kyle Ostlie
Room 211 Email: kostlie@lwsd.org

Goals of this class:

All students will become confident in their abilities to do mathematics, demonstrate an ability to communicate and reason mathematically, and become problem solvers.

Office Hours: I am available 6:30-7:30 (M, W, Tu, F) and 2:30-3:30 (Th). Additionally, I am available by appointment.

Materials:

Paper, Pencil, Pen, Calculator, Compass, Protractor

Calculators are a very valuable tool and will be used regularly in the classroom. That said, they are no replacement for the computing capacity of our brains and you will be expected to function without them as well. A few graphing calculators will be available to students in the classroom, but not for overnight checkout. The TI-83 and TI-84 are highly recommended and are most commonly used in the high school setting. The TI-89 and the TI-NSpire are also options but are not needed for the work done in high school or college. It is also highly recommended that you have your manual with you in class if you use anything other than the TI-83 or TI-84, as I am less familiar with other versions.

Conduct in the Classroom:

All students deserve to learn in an environment where they feel comfortable and which is free from disruptions. I expect all students to follow all STEM policies outlined in their student handbook. Furthermore, students should adhere to the following guidelines:

- **Be prepared for class.** Be on time and have all necessary materials. Homework should be out and students should be in their seats ready for class when class starts.
- **Participate and use class time effectively.**
- **Respect others in the classroom.**
- **Get help when it is needed.** Don't wait until you are three weeks behind before you ask for help. Ask questions NOW.

Communication (Haiku/Email/Conference):

I maintain a Haiku site for this course. Students and parents alike are encouraged to make visiting that website a regular part of monitoring progress in this course. Any time a student is absent from school, it is expected that they visit the site to find any work that was missed on the day in question.

Grades are maintained on Skyward and are typically updated weekly. I encourage you to monitor grades regularly and contact me immediately with any issues or concerns regarding grades. For Parents checking to see if homework has been turned in, within 48 hours of the due date, the assignment will be marked as missing in Skyward. If the assignment has been turned in, an NG will be seen until the actual grade for the assignment is entered.

Students are encouraged to claim ownership of their performance in this class through diligent monitoring of grades and regular communication with the instructor regarding any concerns. Parents are also encouraged to contact me via email whenever concerns arise. I am also available to meet with students and/or parents should you desire a face-to-face conference to discuss any part of this course or the student's performance.

Grading Policy:

The semester grade is cumulative between the two quarters. I do not take the average grade of the quarters. Grades will be calculated based on the weighted categories and the grading scale below:

Category	Weight
Tests/Quizzes	65%
Assignments	15%
MidTerm/Final	20%

Grading Scale			
A	90-100%	C+	77-79.9%
B+	87-89.9%	C	73-76.9%
B	83-86.9%	C-	70-72.9%
B-	80-82.9%	NC	Below 70%

Tests/Quizzes:

There will be a test at the end of every unit. My goal is for every student to demonstrate that they have met standard on each unit's content. I understand that some students will struggle with different units more than others, so I do allow test retakes on unit tests. The test retake policy is as follows:

- Any end of unit test can be retaken (once) to improve your score. Retake tests will never be easier than the original.
- In order to be eligible, all graded assignments from that Unit must be turned in **by the day before the scheduled retake.**

- You will receive the score from the retake exam, **regardless of whether it goes up or down.**

There will also be short quizzes throughout each unit. These are not worth as many points as the unit tests, and are designed to track your progress and the progress of the class. There will not be retakes on the quizzes.

Homework:

Homework will typically be assigned each day the class meets, and will be collected the following session. Homework allows you to practice the skills and concepts learned in class. It is a vital part of the learning process. **I expect homework to be completed by the start of class.** Homework is graded on completion not correctness. All work must be shown for credit. Partial credit may be given for an incomplete assignment, but only if work is shown for the completed portion. I want students to attempt all the assigned problems. Incorrect responses may be given full credit if it is obvious that the student made some progress. All homework assignments can be found on my class Haiku website and Standard Score.

Any graded assignment turned in after the due date, but prior to the unit test, will receive a maximum of 50%. Any other late work turned in (see the test retake policy) will be marked as completed in the grade book, but will receive no credit.

Absences:

If a student is absent, he/she is responsible for all work that is missed. Previously assigned homework will be due the day the student returns to class. Students will need to copy the notes for the day of the absence (these may be available on my website, and students should check for notes before returning to class). Work must be made up before or after school, not during class.

Appropriate Use of Technology:

We will be using our laptops on a regular basis in class to access Haiku and other resources. Cell phones, district provided laptops, and other pieces of technology can be valuable tools in organizing our lives. However, they can also be a distraction to the learning environment if used inappropriately or at inappropriate times. Students will be expected to use technology in a professional manner while in the classroom.

Academic Honesty:

The STEM academic honesty policy will be enforced. Students will frequently work together in class. I encourage students to work together outside of class as well. However, it is the responsibility of each student to understand the material and present their own work, not the work of another student. Copying of an assignment will result in no credit for the assignment for the student copying the assignment and for the student allowing the copying to take place.

Student – Parent – Teacher Contract

As a student, parent or guardian signing this contract, you are acknowledging that you fully understand school and classroom expectations, in addition to homework, grading, attendance and discipline policies.

Student Name: _____ Period _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____

To help me keep in contact with you, please provide your email address. It is one of the easiest ways for me to keep you informed of your child's progress.

*****Parent/Guardian Email Address: _____
(please print)