YOUNG WOMEN'S Leadership Academy

Pre-Ap Algebra 1 Instructional Plan

Created on August 6, 2026

Virtual Meeting - Monday August 26th at 6:30pm - Mrs. McCalla Virtual Meeting

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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WHAT IS PRE-AP?

Pre-AP features grade-level instruction intended to give all students the opportunity for growth. It offers a focused framework, instructional support, model lessons, and classroom assessments while focusing on skills that students will need to succeed in AP courses, college, and careers.

Shared principles:

- Close Observation and Analysis: Students carefully observe a data set, text, image, or problem--capturing relevant details before attempting to explain, analyze, or evaluate.
- Evidence-Based Writing: Students learn to craft precise sentences before progressing to longer forms of writing—applying these skills as they craft claims, develop arguments, and provide explanations.
- Higher-Order Questioning: Students engage with questions that are elevated beyond simple recall as they make predictions, synthesize, evaluate, and compare--learning that deep questions lead to deeper understanding.
- Academic Conversation: Students become active participants in their own learning through frequent opportunities to compare, critique, debate, and build upon others' ideas--recognizing that all voices, including their own, deserve to be heard.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of Algebra 1 concepts. Throughout the year, students will develop their problem-solving skills and critical thinking abilities through various mathematical tasks and assessments. At the end of the year, students will take a STAAR End-of-Course (EOC) exam that is required to be passed for graduation.

COURSE ACTIVITIES:

Below you will find descriptions of the most common activities that students will participate in during the course of each semester.

Throughout the year, students will:

- Work independently on assignments to understand curriculum
- Collaborate with peers in class to understand curriculum
- Engage in classroom instruction through notetaking and in class discussions
- Complete all assignments on time and make corrections as needed
- Throughout the year, students will take homework checks

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CLASSROOM RESOURCES:

- TEKS Aligned Resources
- TEKS Aligned Teacher Material
- Pre-AP Curriculum and Resources
- All resources and curriculum will be posted daily in Google Classroom - with videos of Mrs. McCalla teaching the content

EXAM DATE:

Tuesday, April 27, 2027

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND TOPICS:

- Develop a deep understanding of algebraic concepts and their applications
- Solve linear equations and inequalities
- Graph linear functions and interpret their properties
- Perform operations with polynomials and rational expressions
- Solve systems of linear equations and inequalities
- Analyze and interpret data using algebraic methods
- Apply algebraic concepts to real-world scenarios

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance is crucial for success in this course. The State of Texas requires a minimum of 90% attendance to receive credit for the course. If you miss more than the allowed percentage, you will be contacted for credit recovery options.

COURSE CLASS POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS:

1. Homework Quiz: You will be expected to complete your homework assignments and be ready to take a quiz at the beginning of each class. These quizzes will assess your understanding of the previous day's material and help reinforce your learning.
2. Absences: When absent, all instructional videos are uploaded daily. Please watch the video and write out the notes. Come to tutorials if help is needed on the assignment after watching the video and taking the notes. If absent only on the day of class, please be prepared to take the homework quiz the next class period. If absent for two days, you will have until the second class period to make up the missed work. It is difficult to learn the new material if you didn't learn the prior lesson.

ABOVE GRADE LEVEL STUDENTS (7th and 8th graders):

If you are an above-grade-level student in 7th or 8th grade, you are required to keep up with the homework assignments and maintain an average of 85% or better. This class is a high school credit course and will impact your GPA for high school. Mrs. McCalla will contact parents if these requirements are not met and will discuss appropriate math class placement.

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GRADES - Click here for → YWLA Grading Policy
Major 60%
Minor 40%

The grading policy for this class follows the YWLA high school grading policy, which is attached to this syllabus. Please review the policy in detail to understand how your grades will be determined. I also attached the spring semester final exam exemption policy.
** YWLA High School Math all use homework checks as minor grades instead of homework. We believe that homework should be penalty free practice and that students should have access to immediate feedback. We make sure students have a way to check their answers as they are working out the problems. **

Each day, you will come in and take a short homework quiz that will check your understanding of the prior lesson. The majority of the homework quizzes will have four questions These will be graded as follows:

-1 = 80
-2 = 60
-3 = 40
-4 = 0

Students will be able to correct each homework check if the homework was done entirely with effort (all work shown).

TUTORIALS:
Mondays and Wednesdays before school (8am) and after school until 4:30pm. If I have a meeting, please see another math teacher. I have Dept. Chair meetings on Wednesday mornings. If you need to come see me, please let me know and I will arrange another time.

I am very excited for this year and can't wait to see what all you do! Please always feel free to email me with any questions.
Love,
Mrs. McCalla