

# **Precalculus - South High School**

*Mr. Rumppe – Room 219 & 224-S*

## ***What is Precalculus?***

As the name implies, Precalculus is a course that prepares students for Calculus. By the end of the course, you will be proficient in your algebraic, trigonometric and analytic geometry skills. Precalculus students find the course is a nice review of previous high school topics. They also will notice how those previous topics are expanded upon. Topics in this course include:

- Functions and their Graphs,
- Trigonometry,
- Linear Systems and Matrices,
- Sequences and Series,
- Analytic Geometry (Conics),
- Limits, and an Introduction to Calculus,
- Real-World Applications of Mathematics.

In addition to preparing you for calculus, topics covered will help prepare you for MCA, ACT, and SAT tests.

## ***Prerequisite Courses***

Successful completion of Intermediate Algebra , Geometry, and Advanced Algebra

## ***Required Materials***

- Pencil with eraser
- Precalculus textbook\* – “Precalculus with Limits, a Graphing Approach, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition”
- Precalculus notebook (*used for this class only*)  
(Graphing notebooks are HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)
- Calculator: TI-84 Plus, TI-84, or TI-83 Plus are what we will be using in class. Students will need at least a scientific calculator at home to do homework problems. Students may check out calculators for IN-CLASS USE ONLY.
- Student ID (which students need to have every day at South).

\* You will be issued a Precalculus textbook. **Please put a cover on it.** This book is to be returned to Mr. Rumppe at the end of the year, or when you leave the class. If the book is not returned, or if it is damaged, the replacement cost is currently \$110.

## ***Attendance and Participation***

Daily attendance and participation are necessary for success in this class. We will follow the attendance policy stated in the student handbook. You are expected to come to class on time, prepared, and ready to participate every day. Class participation includes respecting others and their right to learn.

## ***Grading***

Percentages of total points earned in each of the following categories will determine final grades. Grades will be posted on-line. Students are responsible to track their own grade.

Assignments 5 points each.....25% of final grade  
Tests 100 points each.....75% of your final grade

**(over)**

## **Final Grades**

Grades are based on the following grade standards:

A (92-100%)	A- (90-91%)	B+ (88-89%)	B (82-87%)	B- (80-81%)	C+ (78-79%)
C (72-77%)	C- (70-71%)	D+ (68-69%)	D (62-67%)	D- (60-61%)	F (below 60%)

CR: 70% or above; NC: below 70%. \*\*

**\*\*Note:** If you want to take this class as Credit/No Credit, a form for this can be obtained from the counseling office within the first 4 weeks of the quarter and must be signed by the student, parent, and teacher.

## **Assignments**

The term "Assignments" may include classwork, warm-ups, exit tickets and of course, daily assignments.

**The test questions are often modeled off of problems from the assignments.** The way to feeling prepared for tests is to stay disciplined and complete each assignment before the next school day. Homework assignments will be given almost every day and are due at the beginning of the following school day. Each assignment begins with a clean sheet of paper. Homework will be checked for completion (*showing the work and answer.*) A deduction of 2 points is given for late assignments.

## **Notebooks**

Daily note taking is expected and will be checked. I will be looking for organization and completeness. Date and label each day's entry for credit. This will help you with review, homework, and tests.

## **Tests**

Tests may be separated into subsets of the chapter. Tests missed because of an excused absence must be made up within ONE week of your return to school. **If a test is missed due to an unexcused absence, you will receive a "zero" (0%) score.**

## **Academic Honesty**

Academic honesty is expected. Any cheating on tests or homework will result in a "zero" (0%) grade for that item.

## **Extra Help**

I am available for help after school from 3:10 to 4:00pm in the South High Math Center (Room 224-S). Additionally, I am in the Math Center during periods 3 and 6. Please note that I am available for ALL South High School students during these times.

## **SHS Math Center**

Individual tutoring is available daily in room 224-S from 8:20am to 4:00pm, (Closed during 3<sup>rd</sup> Lunch). It is staffed with licensed math teachers.

## **Online Resources (Google any topic!)**

Worked out solutions at: <http://www.calcchat.com/> .

Video Lessons that match the text: [http://college.cengage.com/mathematics/larson/precalculus\\_limits\\_aga/5e/resources/ap.html](http://college.cengage.com/mathematics/larson/precalculus_limits_aga/5e/resources/ap.html)

Topical help via Khan Academy at: [www.khanacademy.org/](http://www.khanacademy.org/) .

Online Graphing Calculator at: <http://www.desmos.com/> or <http://www.meta-calculator.com/online/>.

and Wolfram Alpha at: <http://www.wolframalpha.com/>

## **Other Tips:**

Set aside time each day to work on math. Find someone to study with. Class notes, homework assignments, and the resources listed above can be found on my South High teacher page ([http://south.mpls.k12.mn.us/rumppe\\_rob.](http://south.mpls.k12.mn.us/rumppe_rob.))

## **Contact Information**

Please e-mail me if you have any questions about this syllabus or about the course.

My e-mail address is [rumppe@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:rumppe@mpls.k12.mn.us) .