



Chesapeake Bay Governor's School  
For Marine and Environmental Science  
Bowling Green Campus

## College Algebra Fall 2016

Mrs. Magruder

*B.S. Math and Computer Science  
M.S. Applied Mathematics  
Ed.S. Instructional Technology*

### **Course Description (RCC MTH 158):**

College Algebra is taught to the students in the fall semester of their sophomore year. The course will provide students with the algebraic foundation for Pre-Calculus I and II. College Algebra will take many of the concepts students have been exposed to and give them a more thorough treatment. Students will study linear, rational, absolute value, quadratic, radical, and polynomial equations and functions. We will also explore systems of equations, domain and range, interval notation, domain and range, transformations, composite and inverse functions.

### **Text:**

Precalculus, 4th Ed.; Blitzer: Prentice Hall; 2010

*Please cover this text and keep it at home throughout the year!* We have copies in the classroom for you to use at school.

**RCC College Course Credit:** 3 credits

**High School Credit :**  $\frac{1}{2}$  credit

### **Contact Information:**

Office: 804.633.3406      e-mail: [jmagruder@cbgs.k12.va.us](mailto:jmagruder@cbgs.k12.va.us)

**Required Materials:** Always bring to class: one 3-ring binder (1  $\frac{1}{2}$  or 2 inch thick), notebook paper, pencils, a large block eraser, and a TI-83 or 84 graphing calculator.

**Attendance:** Class attendance is, of course, required. Be reminded of the CBGS policy in the *Handbook* which you signed. Absences and tardiness will be reported daily to your home school and to parents on interims and grade reports. If you miss a day of class, you will find your missed work in your classroom mailbox. If you miss multiple days, email Mrs. Magruder and she will send you work as needed.

**Make-up work policy** All assignments are expected to be turned in on the day they are due. Assignments turned in late will receive a 10% deduction of the earned grade for every day that they are late; however, homework and daily work that are vital to that day's class participation will not be accepted late. After one week assignments may not be accepted. Exceptions for extenuating circumstances can be made, but you MUST talk to me first.

It is the student's responsibility to collect any missing work while absent. Check with Mrs. Magruder via email for any assignments and secure any missed notes from a friend. Assignments, tests, and projects due on the date of the absence are due upon return to school. If an assignment was due via email or other electronic format, it is still due if you aren't present. Work assigned while absent is due within two days of returning to school. Again, exceptions for extenuating circumstances can be made, but you MUST talk to me first.

**Honor Code:** Students are expected to follow the rules and procedures as outlined in the Student Honor Code. Please refer to the Student Handbook if you need guidelines.

**Emergency Evacuation Plan:** In each classroom, laboratory or other places where students are assembled for the purpose of instruction, a fire evacuation plan will be posted indicating the direction of travel from the room in the event it becomes necessary to evacuate the building as a result of fire or other emergency. This plan will be posted in a conspicuous place near the exit from the room.

Whenever the fire alarm sounds, the building will be evacuated. The instructor will ensure the fire door is closed upon leaving the area (doors with automatic closures on them). Instructors are also responsible for assisting disabled students.

If a classroom does not have an evacuation plan posted, the student or instructor should notify the academic dean.

#### ***Course Expectations and Information:***

1. **Be Prepared:** The purpose of MathXL and other homework is to help you learn the material well enough to retain it and to be able to use it now and in the future. It will be essential to your **success**. Promise. No siestas, no holidays. If you fall behind, you will have to work at least twice as hard to catch up. Always do homework, always take notes, always ask questions, always be prepared. It is empowering to know what is going on. Stay on top of your work!
2. **Class Participation:** You MUST ask questions about concepts that you feel need better clarification. Do not worry about anyone's reaction, ask. Be engaged from the beginning and stay that way. Asking questions is a good thing! I love your questions!
3. **Notebook:** As mentioned earlier, you will want a 3-ring binder. All materials I give you (quizzes, tests, worksheets, handouts, ...) will be three-hole punched and need to be kept in your binders. BE ORGANIZED. Very few sloppy students can be successful math students. Many of you find that if you are physically disorganized, you will also be mentally disorganized...not good for mathematics. **We will have a final exam for this course and you will be permitted to use all of YOUR OWN NOTES on the final exam.**
4. **Homework and Assessments:** MathXL Homework will be assigned on a continuing basis. You should work on it several times per week as it will encompass several days' worth of lessons. It is expected that you will work on the assigned problems until you get each one correct, using the MathXL help buttons to work through solutions until you can do them on your own. Tests will be given every two to three weeks. In class activities will also be used as assessments of progress.

5. **Turning in work:** Unless otherwise noted, class work and tests are due at the end of the class period in which they were assigned. Homework (other than MathXL) are due at the beginning of class on the due date. Some assignments can be turned in via Schoology, but when specified, hard copies must be brought in. If you do not have wifi access on the night an assignment is due, bring it in on a flash drive the next morning, and upload it using a CBGS laptop before class starts. When submitting assignments electronically, all files must be labeled as “lastname\_firstname - assignment name”. Always, if you are having an issue with an assignment being late, it is far better to email me before it is due with an explanation for the lateness, than to explain after the assignment is late.
6. **Grading:** I use a “total points” system. Every assignment (quiz, test, homework, classwork, projects) will be given a point value. Your grade will be the points you earned relative to the points the assignment was worth. To compute your average at any point in the semester, take the total points earned and divide by the total points available. There will be approximately 700 - 1000 points per quarter. MathXL homework will be worth ~ 200 - 280 points, class participation and effort ~ 100 points, projects ~ 100 points, advanced challenges ~ 100 points, and tests and quizzes ~ 400 points. A final exam will be worth points equivalent to 10% of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.
7. **Cell Phones:** Math takes focus. All cell phones and other electronic devices must be silenced and are not to be used during class, unless permission is given otherwise. If used in an unauthorized manner, electronics may be confiscated and returned at the end of the class period. Repeat offenders will be referred as stated in the CBGS handbook.

#### **Inclement Weather and School Closings Policy**

- Closing of the Chesapeake Bay Governor’s School is determined by the site (Rappahannock Comm. College-Glenns, Rappahannock Comm. College- Warsaw, or Caroline County School Board). For example: Essex County Schools may be closed due to weather but RCC-Warsaw is open; therefore CBGS will be in session.
- If a school system is closed due to inclement weather and the CBGS is open, students from the *closed* school system may attend pending the safety of the roads and permission from parents.
- There may be an emergency in which the CBGS is closed and the particular school system is open. Students shall report to their respective school instead of going to CBGS.
- If there is a two-hour delay for the CBGS site, CBGS will be closed and students are to report to their home high school.
- If the home high school opens one hour late, and CBGS opens on time, students from the home high school are to report to CBGS, one hour late.