



Geometry

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Textbook: Core Connections Geometry (published by College Preparatory Mathematics)
Students can access the ebook at ebooks.cpm.org

Course description and Essential Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to: communicate mathematics clearly using logical arguments; use problem solving skills to organize data, find patterns, and test conjectures about angles, lines, congruence, polygon, circles, etc.; use coordinate geometry in area, perimeter, transformations, congruence, and functions; develop spatial visualization skills and apply them to 3-D figures. Through cooperative learning, students will move from a “rule-applying” approach to a “rule-generating” approach in understanding and manipulating mathematics.

Instructional Philosophy:

The goal of this course is for students to develop a strong and long-term understanding of Geometric concepts. If learning does not persist past the end of the chapter or the end of the year, in what sense has the student learned anything useful? In order to help students foster long-term learning, we will use the following instructional strategies proven effective by research:

- Initial learning of a concept is best supported by discussions within cooperative learning groups guided by a knowledgeable teacher.
- Integration of knowledge is best supported by engagement of the learner with a wide array of problems around a core idea.
- Long-term retention and transfer of knowledge is best supported by spaced practice or spiraling.

Materials:

- Notebook or binder with loose leaf paper
- Graph paper
- Scientific calculator (Note: A graphing calculator will not be required until Algebra 2. If you choose to purchase a graphing calculator this year, a TI-83+ or TI-84 is preferred.)
- Pencils
- 2 or 3 colored pencils or markers

Office Hours:

If you need help, please ask! I am available most days from 2:37 to 3:00. (Wednesday is the only day I am not available due to teacher meetings.) If you know in advance of a time you would like to come in for some individual help, please set up an appointment time.

Evaluation:

Formative: Homework: 10%

- Assignments are given daily and are due the next school day at the beginning of class.
- Late work can be submitted for half credit before the chapter test. No credit will be given for homework completed after that chapter's first summative test.
- All submitted work must be completed in pencil, except when stated otherwise.
- Your homework should not just be a list of answers – **show your work!**
- Homework help is embedded in the ebook.

Formative: Team Quizzes: 10%

Summative: Individual Tests and Quizzes: 70%

- You are allowed one test retake per chapter.
- If all formative work (homework, etc.) is completed before original test and you complete the required remediation (i.e. test corrections), then the higher score will be your new score.
- If any formative work is missing at the time of the original test but is completed before the retake, and the remediation (i.e. test corrections) is completed, then a maximum grade of 80% may be earned as your new score.
- If you are missing any of the formative work by the time of the retake, the two tests will be averaged together with a maximum new grade of 80%.

Summative: Final Exam: 10%

Classroom Expectations:

- Respect is HUGE in this class. Respect everyone in the room – I promise to do the same.
- Come to class prepared (i.e. bring your notebook/binder, pencil, completed assignment, and enthusiasm for learning ☺).
- *Collaboration* is encouraged and celebrated, but *copying* is not. Be very careful – Anything you turn in should be **your** work, not someone else's.
- If you need additional help in understanding or mastering the material, just ask! I will happily arrange a time to meet with you.
- Water and gum are welcome in class. No other beverages, food, or candy may be consumed during class time.
- There are no cell phone warnings. The first time I see a cell phone (or mp3 player), it will be taken away and turned in to the main office.

Attendance:

If you have an **excused** absence, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed. All assignments or tests from that absence must be made up.

If your absence is **unexcused**, you will receive a zero for any test or assignment due that day. If you have accumulated four or more unexcused absences in a class (per trimester), you will not earn credit for that class unless you make up the academic time. Absences can be recovered after school on Tuesday in the media center or by appointment with me.