

Welcome! This is going to be a wonderful semester. Let's get ready to roll!

Contact Information

Web: <http://www.jmhamilton.net>
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** E-mail communication is preferred! **

Go to the website for:

- Daily Information and Notes
- Assignments
- Grades
- Other valuable stuff

Required Materials

- 3 Ring Binder(s): This should be at least 2-3" thick.

I will leave the organization system up to the student. One student might prefer to keep items chronological, whereas another student might create separate sections for notes, homework, handouts, and the like. [Note: Anyone adamant about using a spiral notebook may do so, but have folders too.]

- Pencils and erasers or pens. I want to be able to read what you write, that's my only requirement.
- Covered Textbook
- Graph Paper
- Highlighters or Colored Pencils (suggested especially if you are a student that finds color-coordination helpful)
- CHS Student Planner. If you need to leave the room, this is your pass.
- **GRAPHING CALCULATOR REQUIRED:**

Any version of a Ti-83 or Ti-84 is preferred OR a Ti-NSpire NON- CAS!

I will not have extra calculators for class use. You MUST bring your calculator daily.

**** Note: Some tests, quizzes, and other assignments (or parts of them) will be WITHOUT a calculator in order to test certain skills.**

Course Objectives

1. Prepare students for success in AP Calculus.
2. Prepare students for a successful transition to college math.
3. Prepare students for a success on the ACT and SAT tests.

Classroom Rules (** In addition to school rules **)

1. Be in your seat ready to go before the bell rings.
2. Respect everyone and everything in the room.
3. Only work on material for this class during this class.
4. Have a positive attitude each day!

Discipline Policy

I will work with students to encourage them to stay on task and minimize their behavior that violates school and class rules. Many times, informal warnings will be issued. If these behaviors continue, we will progressively issue detentions, contact parents, and refer the student to a principal.

Extra Help!? I'm available each morning from 7 – 8 AM.

If you do not understand something, see me before it gets worse! Sometimes 10 minutes can be very beneficial! If you cannot see me before school, ask and we'll try to arrange a time after school!

How to Succeed in Advanced Precalculus – Ten Valuable Tips

1.) **Be An Active Participant During Class**

Working on anything other than Precalculus during class will only hurt your performance.

2.) **Review Your Notes Nightly**

Spend some time each night looking over the notes from a unit. You can look through your notes, or you can browse the online notes at my web site.

3.) **Honestly Attempt All Homework Assignments**

You might need to have your notes nearby to help you. Keep in mind, math is best learned by practice, so this is an essential component for anyone wanting to be successful.

4.) **Put Time into Written Assignments from the Day You Receive Them**

Most units will have a corresponding “written assignment”. Essentially, this is a graded homework assignment where you have several days to complete it. Some of the problems are challenging – waiting until the last minute will result in a low grade. Also, have your notes handy when attempting a written assignment, as many of the problems will be similar to those we have done in class.

5.) **Review Homework, Written Assignments and Quizzes**

Throughout each unit, it is your responsibility to understand what you missed on these items. In addition to reading the comments I provided when grading your work, you should read through the keys provided to each of the items (whether they are given as a paper handout or linked on my web site).

6.) **See Mr. Hamilton in the Morning for Additional Help, When Needed**

If you need help outside of class, I am available from 7 – 8 AM daily for extra help. It is your responsibility to take advantage of this opportunity. Give yourself an appropriate amount of time for help, if you take advantage of this. (Coming in at 7:55 AM if you're “completely lost” is not wise.)

[*PrimeTime is not an appropriate time to come with questions regarding homework, quizzes, or tests.*]

7.) **In Class Assignments – Be Productive in Groups**

For many in class assignments, you will be working in groups of two or three. When in groups, you will be working problems similar to those we discussed in class, but they will be designed to extend your thinking. As such, if you rely on your peers to do the work, you will not be as prepared for quizzes and tests. Also, these problems are good to save and review.

8.) **Attempt the Quiz Again Before the Test**

Before the test on a unit, I will post a blank copy of the quiz (if we had one) on my website for anyone wanting to have the opportunity for additional practice. Be sure to time yourself appropriately. When finished, check your work using the key.

9.) **Use the Test Outlines**

Roughly one week prior to each test, you will receive an “outline” of the important concepts that will be tested. I provide this as a way for you to essentially have a checklist of what you need to know. You should ensure that you understand each of the concepts listed as well as have a definition for any terms that I say could appear on the test.

10.) **Attempt the Test Reviews**

In nearly all units, we will play a review game the day before a test, and a copy of all problems will be available to you by the end of the day. This is a wise item to help you focus your studying the night before a test.