Welcome to Geometry! I hope that you enjoy the challenges and appreciate the practical applications of geometry, as well as the unique way of thinking in a rigorous, logical approach to mathematics. I think we're going to have a great year!

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

- You will not learn much unless you allow yourself to fight the temptation to get frustrated and give up. Persist until you feel good about your level of understanding. This takes patience, resilience, and an openness to struggle, skills that will serve you well for the rest of your life.
- You will enjoy learning greatly if you approach it with an attitude of curiosity and discovery.
- No discipline embodies the notion of truth quite like mathematics does. So please be honest when you are in this course, both with me and with yourself. If you don't know something, just say so – that's why you are here.
- Support and encourage each other. Set up a weekly or biweekly study group with classmates to discuss homework.
- Feel free to use my room for studying/group discussions before school, during lunch, and during Office Hours. I am usually available for answering questions during those times.
- See my posted cell phone and other classroom policies.

MATERIALS

- The texts are yours to write notes in and keep. Students are required to write their names on the inside of the front cover. The text should be where you take/keep your notes and complete the homework assignments.
- Pencils (preferred) or blue/black pens.
- Red pens (1 or 2)
  OPTIONAL:
  - It's generally best if students can have their own set of construction tools (a compass that has a hinge that can be tightened, a protractor with both clockwise and counterclockwise scales, and at least one set square; images of examples of each are in the Google Classroom). Having their own set allows students to become comfortable with them, compared to using something different every day.
  - Calculators are provided for use in the classroom. It's optional, but I would advise you to get a graphing calculator (especially if you want to continue on in formal mathematics). I recommend a TI-84 or higher.
  - *Other:* Graph paper, colored pens, highlighters

NOTES

- Take notes as provided in class daily including during board work, group work, and/or lecture/discussion.
- You will be submitting your notes via the Google Classroom weekly.
- If you are absent, make sure you get the notes from the Google Classroom (posted daily).
- Students will upload images of the notes they have taken to Google Classroom weekly and will be checked for completion, but not included in the grade calculation.

HOMEWORK

- Usually an assignment daily (see schedule on Google Classroom).
- Show appropriate workings for each problem in your text, in an organized, clear, and concise manner.
- Students will be randomly chosen daily to put their work on the board (with the support of their group). You will be allowed to take your texts to the board with you.
- Homework will be uploaded to Google Classroom weekly by students and checked for completion, but not included in the grade calculation.

ASSESSMENTS

Formative: Students will share selected homework solutions in groups at the board. Additionally, they will be required to upload homework and notes weekly to the Google Classroom (usually by the end of the day each Thursday) to provide a picture of student progress and effort. These scores will not count in the calculation of the students' overall grade.

MATHia: MATHia is a necessary formative and summative piece of the Carnegie materials, providing individualized routine practice in each of the concepts covered in class. All MATHia related to a module or topic test is due prior to the test; any MATHia not completed will be considered late. Once a test date has passed, students will automatically be given entry into the next MATHia section.

Summative: MATHia will account for 20% of the semester grade; periodic quizzes will account for 30% of the grade each semester; tests will account for 50%. For pre-arranged absences, make up MATHia/quizzes/tests **_PRIOR_** to your absence. For unexpected absences, students must make up summative assessments **no later than the following Thursday Office Hours**. If this is not possible, get in touch with me right away to make alternative arrangements or your work will be considered late.

Extra Credit/Retakes

There are no extra credit opportunities in this course; be in class to participate, take notes, and do the required work – you won't need extra credit. Retake opportunities will only be available to students who have completed all the MATHia, homework, and quizzes for the test they want to retake. During the last three weeks of each semester students may choose one test to retake; they should correct (in red) their errors on the original exam and check them against the key, then fill out and submit a retake request form. The last day to submit a retake request is the Friday **two weeks before** finals' week. The last day to take a retake is **the Friday before** finals' week.

GRADING SCALE

> A = 90 – 100%
> B = 80 – 89%
> C = 70 – 79%
> D = 60 – 69%
> F = 0 – 59%

You will need to earn a minimum 70% in this course to move on to IB Math A&I Year 2 next year, or an 80% to move on to Algebra 2. I round final grades.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: akstartin@mcpsmt.org
Website: https://www.mcpsmt.org/Page/1046
Google Classroom Codes:
> Period 1:   **pzr7qwm**
> Period 4:   **g7il3my**
> Period 6:   **zpgezyb**