

**Algebra I**  
**Course Syllabus 2011 - 2012**  
**Miss Culbert**

**Course Description:** This course is designed to give students a basic understanding of Algebra I concepts that they can use in the study of other branches of mathematics in high school, college, their career choices, & every day life. Students will build new mathematical knowledge through problem solving, reasoning, and communicating.

**Instructional Philosophy:** Students will work independently and in group settings to master the course content. They will need to meet challenging expectations on assignments while working both in and out of class. Instruction will be presented through teacher-directed lectures and exploration, notes, guided practice & board work. Assessments will include tests, quizzes, homework, and projects.

**Course Goals:**

1. Use numbers fluently and represent numbers with algebraic symbols.
2. Understand patterns, relations, functions, & interpret each as a table or graph.
3. Communicate mathematics by reading, writing, and symbolizing problems, explanations, and solutions.
4. Use calculators as an alternate problem solving resource.
5. Develop critical thinking skills that enhance the ability to problem solve and reason; particularly in mathematics.

**Required Material:**

1. Pencil & Paper
2. 3-ring binder

**Attendance Policy:** This class will follow the TCTC Guidelines on attendance found in your Student handbook. If you have an excused absence it is your responsibility to show your admit slip and see me for the assignment.

**Course Assignments:** The content of the course will be organized by specific chapter and each chapter will include the assessments described below. Additionally, at the end of each semester the students will be evaluated with cumulative exams commonly referred to as the midterm and final.

**Homework:** Each chapter will include multiple homework assignments. Each homework assignment will be handed in the day after it is assigned and graded based upon completion only. Point values for each homework assignment will range from 5 to 10 points. Late assignments will be accepted, but will be awarded a lesser point value.

**Quizzes:** Quizzes will be given often throughout each chapter to evaluate the progress of each student. They will be worth 30 to 50 points and generally conducted in class.

**Graded Homework:** Graded homework will be given at the end of each chapter. The graded assignment, or chapter review, will be worth 40 to 50 points. Other graded assignments may be given if the teacher feels more evaluation is needed. Students will be notified in advance if homework is going to be graded.

**Tests:** At the end of each chapter, there will be a test comprised of extended response questions, problem scenarios, and common exercises. The test will be worth between 80 and 150 points.

**Grading Procedures:**

TCTC Scale

92 - 100 A

83 - 91 B

74 - 82 C

66 - 73 D

0 - 65 F

**Discipline:** This class will follow the TCTC Guidelines for discipline in your Student handbook. General rules will be explained the first day of class.

I have read and understand the requirements of this class.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's signature                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's signature      Date