

## Syllabus

AP Calculus BC, 2017-2018

Mr. Rhodewalt, Rancho Mirage High School, Room 608 (brhodewalt@psusd.us)

<http://www.rhodewalt.com/room608.html>

I look forward to exploring the important and exciting topic of calculus with you this year. The time will fly, especially if you follow my instructions and work hard. The most important part of each interaction in my classroom is respect – respect for yourself, for each other, for the classroom we share, and for me. If you're wondering why I've asked you to do something, think about it in these terms.

Parents: you are crucial players in this class. I assign homework every night, and each assignment is only complete after you initial it.

### **Attendance**

You are expected to arrive before class, set up your things, and begin work before the start of class. You will be marked tardy if you walk in after the start of class. If you are late three times, you and your parents and I will meet to make plans to help you arrive on time. If you need to be reminded to get to work after the bell, you and I will meet outside of class to discuss this.

If you miss a class, you are responsible for identifying your missing assignments and turning them in the day after you return. Assignments are posted each morning in the room and on the classroom web site and on Remind and social media.

### **Required Materials**

These items are required in class each day:

- Texas Instruments graphing calculator (TI-83, 84, 89, or N-Spire)
- Two pencils, sharpened before the start of class
- Eraser (best locally are Staedtler white plastic)
- Spiral notebook (single subject, 70 pages, three-hole punched, perforated if possible)
- Pen (black or dark blue)
- Lined paper
- Straightedge (ID card, pencil, eraser, ruler)

If you do not bring all of these, you will be distracting other students by borrowing from them or by not doing your work. NOTE: you will go through at least four spiral notebooks this year in this class. ALSO NOTE: don't rush out and buy a calculator; we'll discuss your options in class at the start of the year.

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Tear off and return this portion by Wednesday, August 16.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand the AP Calculus BC, 2017-2018 (Rhodewalt) Syllabus.

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent email: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Homework**

Homework is your opportunity to practice for tests. I will assign you homework each night, due the next school day at the beginning of the period. Do your homework in your spiral notebook. (I'll give you formatting instructions at the start of the year.) You should expect to spend at least 30 minutes a night on your math homework. You should join a study group and work together on your homework regularly.

## **Gum/Food/Drink**

Food and drink cause messes in the classroom and so are prohibited. (Gum is prohibited on campus by school policy.) Please do not bring gum, food, or drink (other than water) into the classroom.

## **Personal Electronics**

We will use calculators and Chromebooks in class all year. You rarely need your cell phone. Turn it off and put it and your headphones away before you enter the classroom. I will confiscate your cell phone if I see it. Confiscated items can only be retrieved by your parent, at the end of the day. The Discipline department notes confiscations; repeated events can ultimately result in detention or even suspension.

## **Class Participation**

You will be expected to participate actively throughout the period: answer and ask questions, work in groups, respect the speaker, follow instructions, and be prepared each day. Participation is important so I track it in Synergy. It is worth 5% of your semester grade. Late arrivals cost you participation points.

## **Grading Components**

As in most college math classes, assessments comprise most of your grade.

Quizzes and final exam	65%
Homework	15%
Projects	15%
Class participation	5%

I grade and stamp your homework each day in class. I record homework points in Synergy every Friday. Follow your grade using Synergy. I update Synergy within 24 hours for most assignments.

## **AP Calculus BC Exam**

The AP test is on May 15, 2018. The minimum score that will get you credit at most colleges is 3 out of 5 points. You should plan to score higher than 3 points. If you get a 4 or 5 on the test, you may use that to raise a low semester grade in this class after the fact. I will provide you details on this in September.