

2023-2024 Course Syllabus
Mathematics and Computer Science

Instructor: James Elliott

Dates: August 9, 2023 to May 16, 2024

Course Materials: Students need a 3-ring binder (with dividers), filler paper, and a pencil; a scientific calculator is helpful but not mandatory

Location: Cheyenne Wells Junior/Senior High School, Room 191

Courses: Pre-Algebra, Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Calculus, and Computer Science

Office Hours: 7:00 AM – 7:40 AM before school; after school by appointment

Telephone: 719.767.5612 (Junior/Senior High School Office)

Email: james.elliott@cheyennesd.net

Course Website: <https://www.cw-math.com>

Course Grades

<u>Categories</u>	<u>Final Grade Calculation</u>
Exams	A: $x \geq 90\%$
Homework and Projects	B: $80\% \leq x < 90\%$
Quizzes	C: $70\% \leq x < 80\%$
Bell Work and Bell Work Quizzes	D: $60\% \leq x < 70\%$
Final Exam	F: $x < 60\%$
Notebooks	

Exams

Exams account for a significant portion of a student's final grade. Exams measure a student's conceptual understanding and ability to work problems without additional help. Typically, students are allowed to use a calculator on an exam, but no notes or other resources.

It is understood that not all students learn at the same pace. With this in mind, if a student does poorly on an exam, they have the opportunity to retake the exam for full credit within two weeks of the initial exam date. This exam retake must be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance. Please see Mr. Elliott for more details on this process.

Homework and Projects

Like learning a foreign language or a musical instrument, math is an incremental process that requires consistent practice, correction, review, and application. Homework and projects are an integral part of learning and understanding how mathematical concepts and structures fit together. If students do not practice, then they cannot become proficient.

Homework is assigned for each lesson in a chapter. After homework is assigned, it is due the following class period. Homework will be graded in class and corrections are due the following class period. For example, if a homework set is assigned on Tuesday, it will be due Wednesday, graded on Wednesday, and corrections to the homework will be due Thursday. Ample time is allocated during class for questions and corrections. Completing homework corrections is a large expectation of the class because a great deal can be learned from correcting one's mistakes. If a student needs additional support outside of class, they are expected to seek help from the teacher before school, after school, via email, on the course website, or from a classmate. Helpful videos can be found on the course website or on YouTube.

Late homework is not accepted (exceptions are made for excused absences). It is imperative that students stay current with course material.

Various projects will be assigned throughout the year and are intended to give real-world application to the concepts and ideas being learned in class.

Quizzes

Periodic quizzes are given to check student understanding on a lesson-by-lesson basis, including concepts, procedures, and vocabulary. Students can typically use both calculators and their written notes on quizzes. Quizzes may be announced or unannounced prior to class.

Bell Work and Bell Work Quizzes

Daily Bell Work is used to ensure students have the necessary skills and understanding to learn grade-level material. Bell Work runs in two-week cycles and ends with a Bell Work Quiz every-other Thursday. Calculators can typically be used on Bell Work Quizzes, but no other resources are allowed.

Final Exam

The Fall Final Exam (at the end of the first semester) is comprehensive and covers concepts and skills learned from August through December. The Spring Final Exam (at the end of the school year) is comprehensive and covers concepts and skills learned during the entire school year, August through May. Students can use a calculator on the final exam, but no other notes or resources.

Notebooks

Students use a 3-ring binder and dividers to organize their bell work (with table of contents), lesson materials, notes, homework, quizzes, and exams. A student's notebook functions as a major resource in their learning. Notebooks are graded for completion on a periodic basis.

Classroom Rules and Expectations

1. You are a full-time student. As such, you are expected to remain professional in your attitude and actions and do the very best work you can do.
2. Be respectful of and courteous to everyone in the classroom. Offensive or disrespectful speech or actions will not be tolerated.
3. Students should come prepared and on time to class. Each student should bring their notebook, a pencil, and their completed homework assignment or homework corrections (when applicable).
4. Students should use the restroom (or any other necessity) before entering the classroom. Time taken from class is time lost.
5. No food or drink is allowed in the classroom except for water in a bottle with a lid.

Both student and parent/guardian have read, understand, and agree to the classroom rules, routines, and expectations that are laid out in this syllabus. Please contact Mr. Elliott with any questions or concerns.

Student Name (printed)

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

A copy of this syllabus can be found online at <https://www.cw-math.com/pdf/syllabus.pdf>.