

**COURSE SYLLABUS – HONORS PRE-CALCULUS (UW Math 120)**  
**MR. McLAUGHLIN**

This course is intended for students in preparation for college and/or AP Calculus who have completed Honors Algebra 2 or were highly successful in Algebra 2. The course follows the curriculum of the Math 120 Pre-Calculus course offered at the University of Washington with some additional advanced topics.

**CLASSROOM RULES:**

**"This classroom is a community of active learners"**

For this community to function efficiently and effectively, certain rules need to be followed in the classroom. There are positives for following these rules, as well as consequences when they are broken.

General Classroom Rules

- 1) Follow directions.
- 2) Be seated, prepared, and ready to learn when class begins.
- 3) Be respectful of the class, classroom, and classmates.
- 4) No food, drink, or distracting electronic devices in class

Positives

- 1) Thank you/My appreciation
- 2) Extra daily points
- 3) Excused missing/low assignment
- 4) Positive parent contact

Consequences

- 1) Verbal warning
- 2) Time after class/behavior discussion
- 3) Detention/Parent contact
- 4) Visit with Administrator

**ATTENDANCE:**

- Arriving in class after the bell rings, without teacher approval, is considered tardy. If you are more than 10 minutes late to class, it is considered an absence. If you do not arrive at all in class, you are considered absent.
- Students who accumulate more than 10 absences within an 18 week semester will not receive credit for any classes in which they exceed 10 absences. Absences cannot be made up; however, work may be made up for excused absences.
- Work from an unexcused absence cannot be made up.
- A student who has three (3) tardies will have their grade dropped one grade level... This will affect the grade in multiples of 3 tardies" (Policy 1).
- As a general rule, the number of consecutive days absent will result in that many days flexibility to turn in missed assignments, quizzes, or tests. If any work is not made up within that time frame, a zero will be recorded for that work.

**It is the student's responsibility to make up missed notes and work.**

"An absence results in up to 80 minutes of lost learning. I therefore encourage you to miss a class only when absolutely, positively, necessary. I realize that there are times when it impossible to avoid an absence for various reasons. I am very accommodating to these types of absences, provided you put forth a great effort to learn what you missed."

## **CEDARCREST GRADING:**

### ***Daily Points: 5%***

As students in this class, you are expected to come to class with appropriate materials, on time, and prepared to learn mathematics every day. Also included in the grading criteria are appropriate behavior and involvement in class activities. Students may earn up to five points each day. Absent students will receive zero points. Points lost due to excused absences can be regained after appropriate make up.

### ***Assignments: 20%***

**Homework** – Almost every problem in the text is assigned. A few problems will be assigned per day. In most instances, all problems for a particular chapter will be turned in together as a packet. This gives you time to refine answers and produce the appropriate amount of detail. For some individual assignments, the work will be visually checked for completion the next day. With this structure, do not put off assignment problems and get behind. To get full credit in either instance, make sure all work is shown and responses are written in the context of the problem. Thoroughness of answers is just as important as correctness.

**Group Work – In Class Activities** – A critical part of this course is actively learning the material, discussing, and working as a team at times. Some in-class activities are difficult or impossible to make-up individually. Any products or these activities are assignments.

**Projects** - Projects are long term assignments to be worked on over an extended period of time. They will be an in-depth look at concepts of a particular chapter or “part”. Details and requirements of individual products will vary as each project is assigned.

***All assignments must be completed on time for credit. Late work is not accepted!!***

### ***Tests/Quizzes: 75%***

For the Cedarcrest portion of this class, formal assessments will be grouped into one category. Quizzes will consist of between 1-3 questions similar to homework problems and be worth 20 points. There will be 1 quiz per chapter, maybe 2 depending on the chapter’s length. Tests will occur after about four or five chapters have been covered, and will be graded on an 80 point scale. There will also be a final exam in this class that covers the entire curriculum. This is a larger grade emphasis on assessments and fewer assessments than you are used to. It is important to be prepared!

***Missed tests or quizzes can only be made up before or after school.***

### ***Final Grade***

The following scale, using the three criteria areas listed above, will determine a student’s final grade at each semester

**A (100 - 94) , A- (93 - 90) , B+ (89 - 87) , B (86 - 84) , B- (83 - 80)**

**C+ (79 - 77) , C (76 - 74) , C- (73 - 70) , D+ (69 - 67) , D (66 - 64) F (63 - 0)**

Current grades will be updated weekly, usually on Monday, so that you know where you stand. Progress Reports will be sent home periodically (about every fourth Monday) and must be signed and returned for Assignment credit: Dates sent home will be relative to where we are in the curriculum. Weeks when progress reports are not sent home, updated grades are available through Family Access online.

## **UW GRADING:**

*If a student chooses to enroll with the University of Washington for college credit for this course, their grade will be calculated differently and recorded on a college transcript in grade points. While the portions of the grade are calculated roughly the same, the categories have different weights. Additionally, it is a year-round grade.*

### ***Final Exam: 40%***

It is a requirement that the final exam comprise 40% of the final UW grade. This exam will be given outside of school hours and is approximately a 3 hour exam. It will have a similar feel to an AP exam in setting, but the timing and setting is flexible. However, **there will be one exam time, and if you miss this time, you cannot pass the course!** This exam is written and graded by UW professors. The score is the reported back and factored into your UW grade.

### ***Midterm and Quizzes: 40%***

These are all the other assessments during the entire year.

### ***Assignments: 20%***

This is the same grade from your Cedarcrest portion.

### ***Final Grade***

The UW grade will only be “updated” about every six weeks, and will only be reported once after the final exam has been graded and returned. Grades at UW are decimals that range from 0 to 4.0 in multiples of 0.1, except that the minimum positive grade is 0.7. These are similar to GPA points awarded on your high school transcript, except that grades such as 3.9 are possible. If you wish to continue to Calculus, the minimum grade required is a 2.5. Last year with 12 students, the mean UW grade was 3.55 and 8 of the students had a grade of 3.6 or better.

## **MATERIALS:**

A graphing calculator is **NOT** required for this class. In fact, on all tests, midterms, and finals, you are not allowed to use a graphing calculator. However, you will find having a graphing calculator is useful to keep track of calculation, and will also be useful in you next math class, wherever and whenever that may be. **\*\*If you are planning on taking AP Calculus at CHS, you may want to consider purchasing a TI-89\*\***

Graphing on paper will be a required part of some assignments. Please purchase your own graph paper and keep some on hand. I will not be providing graph paper.

Organization and good note taking is a must in this class. You should have a neat and well-organized notebook with you every day. I suggest a three-ring binder with filler paper, but your method is up to you. Anything that is returned or handed out will be 3-hole punched to facilitate this organization. Your notes and assignments should be written with great care and easy to read. There will be lots of detail and explanation is just as important as the answer. The notation used in this class can easily mean a different idea if written only slightly incorrectly (sloppy!). Be careful and take pride in your work!

### **TEXT BOOK:**

The text for this class is provided by the University of Washington and is available in electronic (pdf) form. This is not a book that is commercially published. If your "home text" is damaged you will be charged for another copy of the entire book. A link will be on to the CHS website to the e-copy shortly after the beginning of the year.

### **CHEATING:**

This will be the only time that the issue of cheating will be formally addressed. ***Cheating in any form will not be tolerated.*** Cheating includes, but is not limited to looking at, pretending to look at, or trying to look at someone else's paper or notes; allowing someone to look at your materials; or talking (about anything!) while quizzes, or tests are being taken. Claiming someone else's work as your own or providing someone else with work to claim as their own is also considered cheating. **Don't risk it!!! The result of cheating on any assignment, quiz, or test will result in a zero with no chance for a makeup. Additionally, the school policies on cheating will be followed.**

### **WEBSITE and EXTRA HELP:**

A website devoted to this class will be up and running soon, providing assignments, notes, and other information. You may access this site through the CHS home page or

Website: [www.chs.riverview.wednet.edu/math/McL/uwpc.htm](http://www.chs.riverview.wednet.edu/math/McL/uwpc.htm)

We also use remind.com for assignment and some other reminders. For Honors Pre-Calculus the logins are posted in class or

Remind.com signup: @mclhpc3 or mclhpc5 (depends on class period)

You are always welcome and encouraged to come in outside of class time when you feel like you need assistance. I will almost always be here a half-hour before school, a half-hour after school, and during advisory. I will also check my email about 6:00 pm each night if you have questions about current assignments or material that are easy to answer.

Email: [mclaughlind@riverview.wednet.edu](mailto:mclaughlind@riverview.wednet.edu)

A class of this nature is likely a new experience for you as a student. Some topics will start out very easy, and then suddenly take a difficult turn. While we move slightly slower than the standard pacing for the UW course, it is still a college level course, and will seem to move very quickly at times to your high school perspective.

**Please make sure that you ask questions when you have them.**

### **CALCULUS:**

This class is taught as a natural lead-in to the AP Calculus class at CHS. If you are a senior, this class will also prepare you for an entry-level college calculus class. All of the concepts in this course are critical to your success with either of these options. Please make sure if your plans include Calculus, focus on mastery of all major concepts.

**SYLLABUS SIGNATURE SHEET**

**(STUDENT SECTION)**

I have read and understand Mr. McLaughlin's classroom rules and policies.

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE READ ENTIRE SYLLABUS BEFORE SIGNING ON THIS LINE

Student name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

1) Was your last math class Algebra 2 or Honors Algebra 2? What was your grade?

2) What are your future plans for math courses (high school and/or college)?

3) Anything else that you feel I should know?

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**(PARENT/GUARDIAN SECTION)**

I have read and understand Mr. McLaughlin's classroom rules and policies.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE READ ENTIRE SYLLABUS BEFORE SIGNING ON THIS LINE

Parent Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions on this syllabus, course, or just in general, please do not hesitate to contact me at CHS at 844-4831 or at [mclaughlind@riverview.wednet.edu](mailto:mclaughlind@riverview.wednet.edu)

**Please sign and return this entire page by Friday, September 4, 2015**