

Instructor **S Casey Jones, PhD**, 678-331-3961 ext. 426 (voice mail),
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Course Description

This is the first in the sequence of mathematics courses designed to prepare students to take higher level mathematics courses during high school such as Advanced Placement Calculus AB and BC and Advanced Placement Statistics. Accelerated Math 1 is a rigorous course covering material from Math 1 and Math 2, and it will require daily diligence by students on assignments and in class performance tasks.

Accelerated Math 1 is a part of the new Georgia Performance Standards Math Curriculum. The first major change in the new standards is that the topics in high school math are arranged in a different order than in the old Algebra-Geometry-Pre-calculus sequence. The topics in Accelerated Math 1 were formally taught as a part of Geometry, Algebra 2, Pre-calculus, and Statistics. The second major change is that the new standards emphasize the ability to read, understand, apply, and communicate mathematics. I think that this second difference has the greatest potential to benefit you by enabling you to be more mathematically savvy in your future academic and professional endeavors.

Topics

- Graphing and solving equations (linear, quadratic, cubic, square root, absolute value, and rational).
- Operations with rational expressions
- Fundamentals of proofs
- Properties of and congruence of triangles
- Properties of polygons, circles, and spheres
- Transformations of functions
- Coordinate Geometry
- Probability
- Sample statistics
- Curve fitting

Textbooks

Georgia High School – Mathematics 1. McDougal, Littell Company, 2008.

Georgia High School – Mathematics 2. McDougal, Littell Company, 2008.

Textbooks are also available on the web—information about accessing them will be provided in class.

Notebook and supplies

You will be required to keep a notebook. At a minimum, you need to have a 1-inch, 3-ring binder with four dividers. Instructions on the organization of the notebook will be given in the near future.

Calculator: TI-83 or TI-84

Graphing calculators are recommended for this course and are strongly encouraged for success.

Grading The grading distribution is shown at the right. Letter grades will be assigned at the end of the semester according to the following scale: A = 90 and above, B = 80–89, C = 74–79, D = 70–73, and F = 69 and below.

Class work and homework —20%
 Projects and quizzes —10%
 Tests —50%
 End-of-course-test —15%
 Final exam —5%

End-of-course test

Accelerated Math 1 has a state-mandated end-of-course test. This test will count for 15% of the semester grade. **The test is scheduled to be taken on December 8 and 9.** Please do not make any plans that interfere with this test. Your score from this test will appear on your transcript.



Final exam

The final exam will count 5 percent of your grade. At the end of the semester, you will be allowed to replace your lowest test grade with your grade on the final exam. If you received a zero for a test because you were caught cheating or you did not take the test, then you cannot take advantage of this incentive.

Performance Tasks

Performance Tasks will be done alone, in pairs, and in groups during each unit. These tasks will be used as a tool to help you acquire the math content in the course. You will be asked to present your work during class and will be given frequent quizzes to encourage you to use your time in class to the fullest and to help you determine what you have learned and what you need to study more.

Homework

Like the performance tasks, homework will be assigned as a tool to help you to acquire math content, to help you develop confidence in problem solving, and to help you develop your math skills. If you do not complete the assigned homework, do not expect to do well in this class. Usually, homework will be graded through frequent homework quizzes. Other means of checking homework for accuracy and completion are also possible.

Extra help

I am more than happy to meet with you to go over any difficulties you may have. Normally, extra help will be available in the mornings before school Monday through Friday by 7:45 a.m. On most mornings, you can find me in Room 2216. You will be informed of any departmental tutoring that is available. You should always feel free to stop by and ask a question.

Extra credit

Strictly speaking there is no extra credit in this class. At my discretion, a few assignments and tests may have a few bonus points. Do not expect extra credit to alter your grade at the end of the semester.

Attendance and makeup work

Attendance is an extremely important part of this class. Your success depends on your being in class every day. If you are absent it is your responsibility to get the notes and assignments that are missed. If you are absent, you will follow the Cobb County School District policy regarding makeup assignments. Missed tests can be made up before or after school by making prior arrangements with me.

Class rules 1. Be prepared. 2. Be involved. 3. Be courteous.

Be prepared means that you will bring your materials to class everyday (paper, pencil, notebook, textbook, calculator, etc.) and that you will do your homework and study for quizzes and tests.

Be involved means that you will participate in class, attempt to do the class work, ask questions when confused, and try to help your classmates understand the material when appropriate.

Be courteous means that you will treat your instructors and classmates like you want them to treat you. Don't talk when it is not appropriate. Don't sleep. Don't get out of your desk when it is not appropriate. Don't work on other class work. Don't access your cell phone. Don't play games on your calculator.

Consequences for failing to follow class rules will result in a phone call to your parents, a teacher detention, and ultimately a referral to an administrator.



Dear Parent (or Guardian):

Attached to this letter is a handout of information about your student's Accelerated Math 1 class. Please take a few minutes to read what we have already discussed in class. Accelerated Math 1 is a fast paced class with a challenging curriculum that will be taught to high standards. Therefore, please invest in your student's success by checking their progress early and often to be sure they are completing their out-of-class assignments, keeping up with their reading, and studying for tests. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me via e-mail (casey.jones@cobbk12.org) or phone (678-331-3961 ext. 426). Many materials for this class including this document are posted at <http://www.scaseyjones.com>. Please use this resource to stay up-to-date with your student's assignments.

Is there anything that you want me to know about your student that will help him or her to be successful?

Parent/Guardian Contact Information:

E-mail address _____

Daytime phone _____

Evening phone _____

By signing below I state that I have read the Accelerated Math 1 Syllabus and Class Expectations and have discussed it with my student.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

Student's Name (print) _____

