

*It's easy to be good every once and a while. It's hard to be good every day.* – Michael Jordan

### Instructor

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### Course Description

Honors Algebra 2 satisfies the third math course in the college-preparatory sequence and is recommended for high achieving math students who want to pursue Advanced Placement math classes or careers in the technical, quantitative, or scientific fields. Topics include those from Algebra II (equations, inequalities, systems of equations, functions - quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic, matrices, determinants, powers, radicals, roots) and additionally includes a more in-depth treatment of conics, sequences, trigonometry, and applications.

### Textbooks

Schultz, James E., et al. *Algebra 2*, Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 2001.

You are expected to bring your textbook to class everyday. The cost to replace the book is \$48.75.

### 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

TI-84 Plus graphing calculators are recommended for this course.

<b>Grading</b> 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.	Tests	50%
	Quizzes/Activities	15%
	Homework/Class work	15%
	Final Exam	15%
	Presentations	5%

### Final exam

At the end of the semester you will be allowed to replace your lowest test grade with your score on the final exam, provided it's higher. If you received a zero for a test because you were caught cheating or you did not take the test, then that grade *cannot* be replaced. If you exempt your math exam, you will not be able to replace your lowest test grade either.

### Homework

Homework is a major part of this course. Homework has several different purposes. It will develop your Algebra skills so that you can learn to do problems quickly and accurately. Homework will sometimes allow you to explore concepts in more depths than you did in class. The combination of skill practice and conceptual learning is what will enable you to use Honors Algebra outside of the classroom. If you regularly do not complete the assigned homework, do not expect to do well. Homework will usually be graded weekly through homework quizzes, accuracy, and possibly completion.

**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 Honors Algebra 2 class. Please take a few minutes to read what we have already discussed in class. Honors Algebra 2 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](mailto: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 Honors Algebra 2 Syllabus and Class Expectations and have discussed it with my student.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

