

## *Precalculus Course Syllabus*

**Instructor:** Susan Gushue

**Room:** 105A

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Phone: 202-526-1632, in the evenings after 6 pm until 9 pm

### **Tutoring Hours:**

Tuesday and Thursday

7:45 – 8:30 am lunchtime by prior arrangement.

Tutoring is to supplement classroom work NOT replace it.

**Course Textbook:** Precalculus with Trigonometry, Concepts and Applications,  
Paul A. Forerster, Key Curriculum Press

### **Course Description:**

Precalculus is a course that revisits Algebra and Geometry and takes a closer look at functions and trigonometry. A central concept is that functions can be expressed numerically, algebraically, graphically and verbally.

Please visit the DCPS website for a detailed description of what will be covered.

Graphing calculators (TI-84) are an integral instructional tool for secondary mathematics that will allow students to explore a variety of approaches to problem solving. Classroom calculators **will be** provided for classroom usage only.

### **Absence Policy:**

Attendance will be closely monitored at all time to receive course credit. Individual circumstances will be examined on a case-by-case basis provided appropriate documentation. Level mastery is unlikely with more than **five** unexcused absences. **Five unexcused absences can result in automatic failure of course. Three unexcused tardies is equivalent to one unexcused absence.**

### **Evaluation:**

Student achievement will be measured using multiple assessment tools including but not limited to chapter and cumulative assessments, quizzes, homework, classwork, projects, and open participation. Percentage factors are:

<b>Projects/Tests/ Quizzes</b>	<b>70%</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Participation</b>	<b>10%</b>

### **Academic Integrity and Plagiarism:**

Any substantiated case of plagiarism – whether intentional or unintentional – may result in loss of Collaboration with other students during assessments is strictly prohibited. Violation of this rule will result in failure for the assignment.

**Rules and Expectations:**

- Be in class daily.
- Come prepared, take notes, receive and complete assignments, and participate in group discussions.
- Seek help when needed. Tutoring is always available via teacher, Georgetown tutors, or peers.
- Take **weekly** assessments. If absent, make-ups are provided during the lunch period.
- Complete **daily** homework and/or study.

**Standard Grading Scale:**

Student achievement is based upon the following scale.

A	100 – 93
A-	92 – 90
B+	89 – 87
B	86 – 83
B-	82 – 80
C+	79 – 77
C	76 – 73
C-	72 – 70
D+	69 – 67
D	66 – 64
F	63 and below

**Course Supply Request:**

- TI-84 Graphical Calculator
- Graph paper

(for assignments outside of class and future mathematics courses)

**BY THE END OF THE PRECALCULUS COURSE, YOUR CHILD SHOULD KNOW AND BE ABLE TO PERFORM THESE SKILLS:**

Add, subtract, multiply, and divide complex numbers (numbers in the form  $a + bi$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are real numbers and  $i^2 = -1$ .)

Explain trigonometric functions, including sine, cosine, and tangent. Show how the functions relate to their geometric definitions.

From their algebraic equations, graphs or numeric representations, recognize functions as polynomial, rational, logarithmic, or exponential.

Apply properties of angles, parallel lines, arcs, and other functions to solve problems.

From the DCPS publication entitled “Expect the Best from Your Child”

**website for detailed description of precalculus standards:** DCPS Home, Precalculus standards

Parent/Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_