

Course Goal

Math Encounters is designed to explore a variety of traditional algebraic topics with the emphasis on practical applications while preparing students for success in Algebra 2. Students will develop their problem solving, communication, and critical thinking skills. Math Encounters uses the 2015 edition of *Mathematical Models with Applications* published by Cengage Learning.

Students successfully completing this course will be prepared to take Algebra 2 next year at WHS, but current seniors may not be prepared to enter a four-year college. Many universities require students to complete Algebra 2 with a grade of C or higher to be admitted to their school.

Sequence of Power Standards (PS)

First Semester: Algebra Fundamentals, Financial Math, Probability and Statistics.

Second Semester: Graphing, Functions, Systems of Equations and Quadratics.

Student Expectations

1. Be on time and *ready to learn*. Come prepared for class with the following essential materials: pencil/pen, paper, scientific calculator (for trigonometry) and your completed assignment.
2. Use time wisely – follow directions and stay on task.
3. Keep distractions such as outside material, food and personal electronics out of the classroom. Water bottles are okay.
4. **Be respectful** to others and the property of others at all times.
We want a positive learning environment at Willamette and we need to work together to achieve it. We **will not tolerate** any bullying, offensive talking, or **harassment of any kind**. Everyone deserves to be treated with respect so we can all be successful at WHS this year.

Students are to follow all rules stated in the student handbook. If rule violations occur, possible consequences are: verbal warning, teacher-student conference, retention after class, parent/guardian contact or administrative referral.

Cell Phone Policy: To honor our student's learning environment, cell phones will be off and away in all classrooms during class time. See WHS Student Handbook (p. 26) for more details.

Extra Help

Please do not be afraid to get extra help if needed. Free after school tutoring is available in the Media Center every day until 4:30 pm. All teachers at WHS have a Personal Assistance Time (PAT) in order to give students extra help. There is a math teacher available every period of the day (see below).

Willamette Math Staff PAT Schedule:

1st Period (2nd half): Myers – Rm 12
2nd Period (1st half) Otto – Rm 5
3rd Period (1st half): Broyhill – Rm 7 or
(2nd half): Hatefi – Rm 8
4th Period (1st half): Guldager – Rm 9

5th Period (2nd half): Jensen – Rm 2
6th Period (1st half): Belisle – Rm 13 or
(2nd half): Black – Rm 4
7th Period (2nd half): Saputo – Rm 3
8th Period (2nd half): Nordling – Rm 4

Attendance and Participation

Attending class and participating are a must! Absent students are responsible for the work missed, and it is the students' responsibility to find out what work was missed the first day after their absence(s). The best way to stay on track is to make up the work quickly and come in for individual help when needed.

It does not matter if absences are excused or unexcused - each missed day represents missed learning time. Missed days add up quickly: when you miss as few as two days a month, you will miss out on 10% of the school year. This increases the risk of academic struggles. **School + You = Success**

Preparation (in-class assignments, homework and quizzes)

Math is learned by doing! Students should expect some homework every day. Attempt **all** problems, and show **all** of your work. Assignments need to show all work in order to get full credit. Mistakes are part of the learning process, just be sure to make corrections to your work.

Daily preparation assignments will be scored for effort and completeness and should be ready to be checked at the beginning of every class. Partial credit will be given for partially completed assignments. Some preparation work may be collected for a separate grade, or preparation quizzes may be given to check students' mastery on assignments.

Assessments (Tests)

Power Standard (PS) assessments will be given at the end of each chapter and will be announced at least a week in advance. Students may have up to two attempts on each assessment. The only opportunity for the first attempt is on the original date of the test. Students with an excused absence on the day of an announced test should be prepared to take the assessment upon their return. Students absent on the review day should come prepared to take the test on the original test date.

In order to earn the privilege to retake an assessment, a student must complete all of their preparation work and a second review assignment to show evidence of readiness.

Students must complete retakes within **two weeks** of when the original assessment is returned to the class. Students will need to schedule the retake for a time outside of their regular class period (study hall, Wolverine hour, off campus period or after school).

Grades

Grades will be updated every two weeks near the 1st and 15th of the month. Assignments are typically posted by the end of the day on Home Access Center: <http://www.bethel.k12.or.us/district/hacstall/>

The final semester grades are based on a weighted average of all assignments as follows:

Assessments: 65%

Preparation: 20%

Final Exam: 15%

Grades will be posted online and in the classroom after PS assessments. The grading scale is:

A = 90% - 100%

B = 80% - 89%

C = 70% - 79%

D = 60% - 69%

F = 0% - 59%

Contacting me

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Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. If you leave a message, please let me know the best time to reach you. My email is: mike.myers@bethel.k12.or.us