

Geometry

Overview for Parents

Teacher: Alison Gorman

Content Goals

This is a full-year geometry course which meets four periods a week. Students successfully completing this course will be prepared to take Algebra II. In this course, students explore geometry topics while continually reinforcing their algebra skills. Students use two-column, paragraph, and indirect proofs while studying congruent triangles, parallel lines, polygons, introductory trigonometry, circles, area and volume, and coordinate geometry.

Geometry emphasizes logical thinking and organization of mathematical ideas. Students will encounter problems that require sustained thought and numerous attempts to solve. When a dead end is reached, students are encouraged to re-evaluate their thinking and begin with a new strategy. During class, students will often work in groups at the white board to collaborate on solutions.

Text: [Geometry for Enjoyment and Challenge, New Edition](#) (McDougal Littell, 1991).

Expectations for Students

Students are expected to arrive in class on time with the proper materials and with the previous night's assignment completed. Students should respect their teacher and classmates by listening attentively and not raising their hands while someone else is speaking. All students should feel that they can risk giving a wrong answer in class because often a wrong answer helps us to find our way to the correct answer. Calculator use will increase throughout the Middle School years, but calculators are only to be used for math.

There will be one or two shorter quizzes during the chapter and tests are given at the end of each chapter. All tests (not quizzes) may be corrected for some additional credit. Students have been given a specific set of rules for correcting tests and these must be followed exactly. Test corrections are due in class one week after the test is handed back.

Students are expected to use their Plan Books to mark in dates of tests and quizzes, reminders to study for tests and quizzes, due dates for longer term assignments, and reminders about test correction due dates. Students are not required to copy the written assignment into their Plan Books since an assignment sheet is distributed and there is an assignment daily.

Homework Requirements

Homework will be given daily and is to be completed by the next day's class. A weekly assignment sheet will be handed out each Monday. If a student is absent or forgets his/her assignment sheet, the assignments will be posted on the Crossroads website by the end of each Monday. Homework should be done in a separate spiral notebook of graph paper. The assignment (section, pages, and problem numbers) must be included and highlighted at the top of each assignment.

Daily assignments are not collected and graded. Answers to assignments are reviewed daily. The goal is for students to appreciate the value of homework for success in the course, not for the individual grades received on the assignments. Students are expected to make an honest effort on all problems, which begins with copying down the problem and information given even if no final solution is reached.

In addition to the daily assignments, a longer term assignment will be given at the beginning of most weeks and will be collected the following week for a grade. The graded assignment will typically consist of 1-3 more difficult problems that students will need to spend time on throughout the week. These problems are to be done independently (no human assistance). Students may consult their textbooks, notes, or ask me for assistance prior to the day they are due. The format for graded assignments is clearly explained on a handout, "Expectations for Graded Problems", and must be followed exactly.

Contacting the Teacher

I can be reached by e-mail at alison.gorman@crossroadsacademy.org or by leaving a voice mail at 795-3111, ext. 222. E-mail is the most efficient way to contact me.



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