# Geometry
## Overview for Parents

**Content Goals** **Teacher:** Maria Squire

This is a full-year Geometry Honors course which meets five periods a week. Students successfully completing this course will be prepared to take Algebra II. The course investigates geometry topics while continually reinforcing 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. We then finish the year with constructions.

Our study of geometry will emphasize logical thinking and organization of mathematical ideas, in conjunction with expansion of visual and spatial dexterity. Students will cultivate the development of an analytical, systematic approach to problem solving. They will encounter problems that require sustained thought and numerous attempts to solve. When students reach a wall, they will be encouraged to re-evaluate their thinking and begin with a new strategy. During class, students will often work in groups 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 or speaking while someone else is speaking. All students should feel empowered to risk asking questions or giving a wrong answer in class, because often a query or error helps us to find our way to the correct answer—and we can always learn from each other about different ways to approach the same problem. In Geometry, calculators may be used for cumbersome computation, to maintain conceptual focus.

There will be one or two shorter quizzes on each chapter; tests will be given at the end of each chapter. Students may correct all tests (not quizzes) for some partial credit. Students have been given a specific set of rules for correcting tests and these must be followed exactly. Test corrections are due one week after the test is returned.

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

**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 in class; the sheet will be posted on my teacher page on the Crossroads website by 3pm. If a student is absent or forgets his/her assignment sheet, he/she is expected to check the website; any handouts may be received electronically. Homework should be done in a separate spiral notebook of graph paper. The assignment (section, pages, and problem numbers) must be included at the top of each assignment.

Homework assignments will be checked daily for completion, and reviewed in class. Students will have the opportunity to ask questions, to correct problems, and to present and discuss solutions. The goal is for students to appreciate the value of homework for success in the course, and to use homework as a tool for deeper learning. Students are expected to make an honest effort on all problems, and to record their work, 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 that students will work on throughout the week, and hand in the following week for a grade. The graded assignment will typically consist of 1-3 more difficult problems that are to be done independently (textbook and notes, as well as human assistance solely from me, may be used). Students received a handout detailing "Expectations for Graded Problems," which must be followed explicitly.

**Contacting the Teacher**

I can be reached by e-mail at maria.squire@crossroadsacademy.org. I welcome communication and feedback, so please reach out with questions, comments or concerns.

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