2025-2026 ATYP Algebra 1 Syllabus
Thursday 1:20 – 3:50pm

Instructor
Ms. Alla White
Office hours: by appointment
E-mail: alla.white@wmich.edu

Website
Gowmu.wmich.edu
- Use to access both **eLearning** for our course and **WMU email**
- Students should be checking your WMU email **frequently** and use this email to communicate with me

Supplies for Class
- **Textbook** (*provided*): *Algebra I*, Prentice Hall Mathematics High School Math Series by Bellman, Bragg, Charles, Hall Handlin & Kennedy, 2007
- **Calculator**: The TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator (can be borrowed at the Office, while supplies last). While there are several topics that this calculator will be necessary for, the primary goal of this course is for the students to develop solid skills and comprehension of the Algebra I material using paper-and-pencil. (Note: some parts of the Final exam do not allow calculator use).
- **Notebook x2**: Students need **TWO GRAPH notebooks** (4 squares per inch). One notebook used for class notes (WILL BE GRADED!) & the other for completing homework assignments.
- **Folder or Binder:** to stay organized and hold all relevant course materials.
- **Red pen:** will be used for different activities in class & homework organization.
- **Pencil(s) and eraser**: Math should be completed in pencil, not pen or marker. Mistakes happen and should be easily correctable.
- **Ruler**: a must-have tool for mathematicians.
- **Highlighter** and/or **Colored Pencils** (optional) can be useful in identifying important information, graphing, etc.
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Grading Scale

A	90-100%
BA	82-89%
B	75-81%
CB	70-74%
C	60 - 69%
NC	<60 %

To obtain credit for the course, students are expected to perform satisfactorily on both homework and exams. Both averages must meet the minimum requirements. Other factors, such as class performance and class discussion, will assist the instructor in assessing the student's understanding of content. Final evaluations will assess the student's overall comprehension of the content. Homework grades falling below 60% three times indicates that the program might not be suited to the student. A conference between the parent(s)/guardian(s) and the teacher will be arranged.
Two homework grades below 60 – help session attendance is MANDATORY.
Two missing homework submissions – the student will be referred to the office.

Homework (and Other Academic Expectations)

- Mastery comes from practice, i.e., doing homework problems – **on a daily basis.** Concepts and skills are honed through study and completing homework assignments on time. Before attempting HW problems from the new section, **read the section** for understanding and review your notes from class. Expect to spend an hour a day on your homework.
- Two homework grades below 60 – help session attendance is MANDATORY.
- Two missing homework submissions – the student will be referred to the office.
- Even if the student is absent from class, his homework will be due the next class regardless.

Homework Organization: (an example of how homework should be organized will be provided to the student on the first day)

- Start each problem by writing the problem number on the *left* of the margin. Clearly label each section and each problem number. Do not try to fill a page with problems written all over. **Show steps/methods on separate lines**. If an answer comes from your calculator, state clearly **the procedure** you used and/or draw a sketch of your graphing screen. Graphs are to be drawn using **a ruler for straight lines**.
- Each piece of homework must have your name on the top right-hand corner and the Week Number below your name in the top right-hand corner.
- Be sure **to show all steps** in completing problems, and box in or circle/highlight your answer. **Write legibly**. If I cannot read your work, I cannot grade it and provide you feedback.
- Complete problems sequentially by section. Problems out of order may not receive credit.
- Leave two-three lines between problems to provide feedback.
- **Show all of your work** and give detailed, complete answers on all of your assignments and exams to earn full credit. Answers with little or no work to support them usually receive at best half credit, sometimes less. Showing your work allows us to **give partial credit** if your answer is incorrect, informs about misconceptions you may have, and is an important skill for upcoming coursework that utilizes math skills, logic, and analytical reasoning. In your career, you will almost always be expected to justify your work. Start now where we can help with feedback.
- **Due Dates:** Homework will be turned in each week of class. Specific, individual due dates for assignments are outlined on the final page of this syllabus. Please be reminded that being absent for ATYP is the equivalent of missing close to two weeks of your home school. Experience has shown that skipping a week proves to have a negative effect on student overall class performance and final grade.
- **Grading:** Homework will be graded each week. This may be a sampling of the problems or all of them. The solutions will be returned in a timely fashion to allow the student feedback on the problems. To assist in feedback to the student, the assignments have an overlap of sections from one week to the next.
- **Corrections:** Students are encouraged to take risks, to make mistakes and to learn from them. To become fluent and competent in mathematics, students must be aware of their shortcomings and their wrong interpretations of concepts. Doing corrections is a very important habit in the growth of an algebra student. You may turn in corrections and earn back points missed. Corrections must be done on an entirely different sheet of paper and the original homework included. Each corrected problem should be identified by the section number and problem number. Please turn corrections in, at the latest, the week after homework is handed back to you.
- **Other Important Considerations:**
  - One of the most important aspects of this class is the need for clear, logical and concise communication of algebraic concepts. A correct answer to a problem is not the end by itself – I seek **for the flow of reasoning in arriving at the answer**. Students should be asking: What properties allow me to do that? What operations do I use? Is the answer reasonable?
  - Every problem assigned should be completed. Do not give up on a difficult problem. Discuss with a classmate, seek help from a parent, or ask for assistance by contacting me. **ATTEND A HELP SESSION! There** are a variety of ways we can effectively communicate outside of our class time for support!

Snow Days:
- If there is a snow day (please refer to the official ATYP policy), you will be notified via email.
- We will either have an online class OR Students will receive a self-study packet with video links & exercises. HOMEWORK for that week will be due the next class.

Exams
- Exam dates (tentative) are listed on the Syllabus (found below & as a separate file) . Students will be notified ahead of time in the event of changes.
- Exam 1 and Exam 2 are written by the instructor.
- The Final Exam is the Michigan Standardized Exam covering all Algebra I content.

Tips for Success
- **Take quality in-class notes, including documenting examples to reference later**.(will be graded)
- Begin homework as soon as possible after our weekly class sessions.
- Read the introduction to new sections for understanding.
- **Pace yourself** throughout the week with homework sessions each day or every other day.
- Work through the examples step-by-step, thinking about **why** each step was made.
- Work an odd numbered problem adjacent to the even numbered problem [answers in book].
- Write out every step in the solution process and check your work as you go.
- Phone or e-mail a classmate or Ms. White for additional homework help, **attend help sessions**.
- When seeking help, be prepared to explain your question and what you've tried so far.
- Form a study group with your peers.

Course Topic Outline (Subject to change, as needed)
- **Variables and Algebraic Expressions**
- **Real Numbers and their Properties:** Natural Numbers, Whole Numbers, Integers, Rational and Irrational Numbers
- **Solving Equations/Inequalities**
- **Solving Systems of Equations/Inequalities**
- **Families of Functions:** Approached through four ways of representing functions (Words, Tables, Algebraic Expressions, Graphs)
    - **Linear**
    - **Absolute Value**
    - **Exponential**
    - **Polynomial**
    - **Quadratic**
    - **Radical**
    - **Rational**
- **Number Patterns and Sequences**
- **Variations and Functions**
- **Statistics**
    - Central Tendency: Mean, Median, Mode, Range
    - Scatter Plots and Linear Regression
    - Probability
- Permutations and Combinations

Homework Schedule

<u>**ATYP Algebra I - Thursday - White**</u>   **2025-2026**

This homework schedule is **tentative** and subject to change given notice.

<u>*In addition*</u> *to assigned problems to be completed,* **<u>homework also includes reading the new sections</u>** *to be taught in the coming week.*

Week	New Sections	Homework Sections	Problems
1. August 28	Introduction to the course 2.1 – 2.5	1.1 – 2.5: *ABC*'s, Test Prep and Mixed Review p25, & 3.8	2's
2. Sept 4	2.6 – 3.3	1.1 – 1.6: *BC*'s, 2.1 – 3.3: *ABC*'s	4's
3. Sep 11	3.4, 3.6, 3.9, 4.1 – 4.3	2.1 – 2.5: *BC*'s 2.6 – 3.4, 3.6, 3.9, 4.1 – 4.3: *ABC*'s	6's
4. Sep 18	4.4 – 4.6, 5.1 – 5.3, **Quiz 1**	2.6 – 3.3: *BC*'s 3.4, 3.6, 3.9 – 5.3: *ABC*'s	8's
5. Sept 25	5.4 – 5.7, 6.1 Review	3.4, 3.6, 3.9 – 4.3: *BC*'s 4.4 – 6.1: *ABC*'s; ***Study for Exam 1***	2's
6. Oct 2	6.2 – 6.5 ***Exam 1 (Ch 1-4)***	4.4. – 4.6, 5.1 - 5.3: *BC*'s 5.4 – 6.5: *ABC*'s	4's
7. Oct 9	6.6 – 6.8, 7.1, 7.2	5.4 – 6.1: *BC*'s 6.2 – 7.2: *ABC*'s	6's
8. Oct 16	7.3 – 7.6, 8.1	6.2 – 6.5: *BC*'s 6.6 – 8.1: *ABC*'s	8's
9. Oct 23	8.2 – 8.6	6.6 – 7.2: *BC*'s 7.3 – 8.6: *ABC*'s	2's
10. Oct 30	8.7, 8.8, 9.1 – 9.4	7.3 – 8.1: *BC*'s 8.2 – 9.4: *ABC*'s	4's
11. Nov 6	9.5 – 9.8 **Quiz 2 + Review**	8.2 – 8.6: *BC*'s 8.7 – 9.8: *ABC*'s; ***Study for Exam 2***	6's
12. Nov 13	10.1 – 10.4 ***Exam 2 (Ch 5-8)***	8.7 – 9.4: *BC*'s 9.5 – 10.4: *ABC*'s	8's
13. Nov 20	10.5 – 10.8, 11.1	9.5 – 9.8: *BC*'s 10.1 – 11.1: *ABC*'s	2's
Nov 27	No Class	Thanksgiving Week	
14. Dec 4	11.2 – 11.4, 12.1, 12.2	10.1 – 10.4: *BC*'s 10.5 – 11.4, 12.1, 12.2: *ABC*'s	4's
15. Dec 11	12.3 – 12.6 **Quiz 3**	10.5 – 11.1: *BC*'s 11.2 – 11.4, 12.1 – 12.6: *ABC*'s; Revision	6's
16. Dec 18	12.7, 12.8 Review	Exam Review Packet	
Dec 22 – Jan 2	No Class	Winter Recess	
17. Jan 8	Review for the Final Exam	11.2 – 12.2: *BC*'s 12.3 – 12.8: *ABC*'s; ***Study for the Final Exam***	8's
18. Jan 15	***Final Exam***	12.3 – 12.8: *Worksheet* 1.1 – 1.6: *ABC's* (Algebra II)	All 2's