2020-2021 Course Description

**Essential Learnings** As per the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics, Math 8 will focus on the following areas: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; (3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

**Course Mission**

The mission of this course is to help students attain their highest mathematical potential through an academically rigorous and content rich educational program.

**Classroom Expectations and Policies**

**CLASS NORMS**

1. Respect your teacher, school & classmates.
2. Respect the learning environment of others.
3. Follow directions the first time they are given

**CONSEQUENCES**

1. Verbal warning.
2. Seat change
3. Removal from class and phone call home.
4. Lunch Detention and/or Friday School

**EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS**

Be prepared and on time for class EVERYDAY. Being prepared means:

- You are seated at your desk and prepared to work at the beginning of each class period
- You have a positive attitude and willingness to learn!
- You have brought the required supplies (see below) and homework

**VIRTUAL (CANVAS or ZOOM) MEETINGS**

As we will be working together in a remote and/or hybrid classroom, it is important that we still meet as a whole class to discuss issues and answer questions. Therefore we will have virtual meetings (most likely using Canvas embedded conferences or Zoom). I understand that we are all working in different environments and will do my best to keep the meetings as brief and focused as I can.

Meetings will be as follows:

- **EVERY Wednesday:** Required whole class meetings. Meetings begin at the start of your designated class time.
• **Sporadically**: As issues, questions or announcements arise that are not addressed in the Wednesday meeting, I will schedule a required whole class meeting as needed. I will do my best to give you as much time in advance as possible.

• **As needed**: If you are having difficulty with concepts, questions, or just need clarification, please feel free to contact me so we can set up an individual (or group) meeting.

**VIRTUAL MEETING ETIQUETTE**
During virtual meetings, the class norms and expectations still apply and I expect everyone to adhere to these guidelines. I would encourage everyone to have their camera on and participate when appropriate.

**TARDIES**
Students are expected to be in class, on-time, with materials and ready to go for class everyday. Not being PHYSICALLY present in class when class begins will result in being tardy. Failure to do so will result in a student being considered tardy. Per school policy, repeated tardiness will result in:

- 1st Tardy-warning
- 2nd Tardy-parent notified
- 3rd Tardy-after school detention
- 4th Tardy-referral to office.
- 5th Tardy-parent, student and admin meeting at school

**SHOWING YOUR WORK**
Students are expected to show work for all assignments and tests. Showing your work demonstrates your understanding of concepts taught in class and allows the instructor to follow your work and see the progress you are making. Showing your work also provides the opportunity to receive partial credit. **FAILURE TO SHOW YOUR WORK MAY RESULT IN A SCORE OF ZERO.** “If you have to ask yourself if you need to show your work, you should show your work.”

**FOOD and DRINK**
Drinks are allowed in class as long as they are in a sealable container (water bottles, gatorade, etc…)
Food will not be permitted at any time in class. Food or unsealable drinks will need to be disposed of before entering class.

**CELL PHONES**
Cell phones will need to be placed in the class cell phone holder at the BEGINNING of every period. Any student caught with a cell phone not in the class holder will receive an automatic Friday school.

**SUPPLIES**
It is my expectation that you bring the following supplies to class each day.

- Notebook/binder with paper
- Calculator (Scientific is sufficient)
- Pen(s) and Pencil(s)
GRADING POLICIES

All assignments will be graded on a weighted system. Your grade will be based on topic tests, quizzes, mastery assignments, and class and homework. In addition to chapter tests, a comprehensive final exam will be given at the end of the semester. Grades are a reflection of the currently demonstrated understanding of the course content.

Your overall grade will be based on the following:

1. Quizzes/Classwork 20%
2. Tests/Assessments 50%
3. Math XL 15%
4. Practice/Homework 5%
5. Semester/Final 10%

Grading Scale:
- 90 – 100 % A
- 80 - 89 % B
- 70 - 79 % C
- 60 - 69 % D
- 0 - 59 % F

Assessments (50% of your grade)
- Topic Tests

There will be a mastery test at the end of each topic section. Tests may include material from earlier chapters, as well. There will also be Mid Topic Checkpoints during each topic.

Quizzes/Classwork (20% of your grade)
- Quizzes - There will be quizzes given at the end of each lesson. These quizzes are on the material from the previous lesson. It is important that students complete all assigned work and questions in order to be best prepared for each quiz. Students are not allowed to retake quizzes, but the lowest quiz score from each topic will be dropped.

- Notebook/Binder-Notebooks will be checked periodically. This may be in the form of “quiz” where students will be allowed to use their notebook to answer the questions. Questions will be based primarily on classwork: notes, do nows, class activities, etc.

Math XL Assignments (15% of your grade)

These assignments are completed through Pearson Realize at the end of each lesson. These assignments correlate with the quizzes given after each topic, therefore are a good opportunity to practice the skills for the lesson quizzes. EVERY student has the opportunity to earn 100% on these assignments as they can be retaken as many times as needed in order to increase their score.

Semester/Final Exam (10% of your grade)

The final will be comprehensive and an important assessment for determining your final grade,
Practice/Homework (5%)

The practice/homework category will include all of the work designed to build learning and understanding for the course standards. This includes practice problems from the book and/or Math Mates, or any other assigned activities.

MAKE-UP WORK

• Home/Class Work

- Excused absences: You are responsible for obtaining the material covered. Upon returning to school, you have two days to complete missing assignments unless different arrangements are made with the teacher.
- Late work: Late work will be accepted up to the day of the Unit/Topic Assessment.

• Test Makeup

- A testing environment is required for all tests or quizzes.
- If you are absent for a test or quiz, it is your responsibility to schedule a makeup session with the teacher. Scores will be entered as a 0 until the assignment in made up.

CHEATING

Cheating includes, but is not limited to, copying work, sharing or receiving test or quiz answers, talking during a test or quiz, and turning in another student’s work as your own. The consequences include a zero for that assignment and possible disciplinary action.

CANVAS

This site is a valuable tool with numerous resources to assist you with the content in this class. The website has the following resources and we will be building as the school year gets rolling:

- Home/Class work assignment & due date
- Links to online resources from Pearson (see below), Math XL, videos, practice worksheets, tutorials, etc.
- In class activities or assignments (when applicable)

SAVVAS REALIZE (Formally PEARSON REALIZE) ONLINE RESOURCES

Each student will have access to online resources at https://www.savvasrealize.com/ using your school Google account login as follows:

Username: first.last@jajags.com password:Last Student ID no spaces last name capitalized
For example: jane.smith@jajags.com Smith213245

Students will have access to the online version of the text in addition to a number of different types of tutorials and assignments.

GRADE REPORTS

Grades may be accessed 24/7 on Infinite Campus through the Parent Portal. If you have difficulty logging in, please contact me as soon as possible. Parents may email or call me if they have a concern or question about their child’s progress in this class.
Our focus will be on learning and not just earning a grade. However, each grade earned should be an indication of how a student is progressing in relation to the learning goals. If a student is not earning the grade that they had hoped for it is an indicator that more work will need to be done to demonstrate mastery of the learning standards. My focus will be on providing students feedback on how they are progressing toward these goals. Communication is the key.

I am looking forward to working with your student this year. If you or your student has any questions you would like to ask or concerns to share with me, please feel free to email me at any time.

“Strength in Numbers”
Tentative Course Schedule

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*** The instructor reserves the right to adjust the syllabus at any time***
Dear Student and Parents/Guardians:

Hello and welcome to the Fall 2020 Semester. My name is Mr. Proctor and I am looking forward to this semester as we explore various mathematical concepts, and have fun doing it!

I enjoy teaching math and believe it is an important subject that you will need for the remainder of your life. I am confident that the curriculum and other qualified resources will challenge the students and advance their mathematical knowledge. In order for us to be successful this year, we need to have an environment in the classroom which will allow all of us to learn.

I know this semester is going to be different from what we have previously experienced at school, but I have confidence that we can make it work and that your child will still receive the quality education that is expected from Jefferson Academy. This will be a learning experience and adjustment for ALL OF US so I ask that we all be flexible as we work through the challenges and know that I am there to support your student so they can be successful.

Please support me by reviewing the attached list of my classroom policies and expectations. Please take the time to read through these so you understand them and feel free to ask me questions. My door is always open, so please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. You may contact me by email. I look forward to your support and having a great school year!

Mr. Proctor
Jefferson Academy Secondary
rproctor@jajags.com

Parent Access: Please feel free to monitor our class website and Infinite Campus to be aware of: concepts to be studied, assignments, upcoming assessments, class notifications, students’ grades, Infinite Campus updates, etc.

Student name: ____________________________

Parent/Guardian name: ____________________________

Best way to contact you: ____________________________

**I have read and understand this course’s expectations and policies. Please sign and date below.

Student: ____________________________ Date: __________

Parent: ____________________________ Date: __________