

**Park Avenue Christian Academy**  
**2013-2014 Syllabus**

**Course Website:** <http://www.pacacademy.org/teachers/kenney/Site/Welcome.html>

**Course:** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Algebra 1 Honors

**Instructor:** Heather Kenney

**Room Number:** Rec 201

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**Textbook:** Smith, Charles, Dossey, Keedy & Bittinger. (1994). *Algebra*. Addison-Wesley Publishing Company. Menlo Park, CA.

**Required Materials:**

- ❖ 1½ inch, 3-ring binder, containing:
  - Pocket or attached sleeve for 4x6 note cards and H.O.T. card
  - Graph paper
  - Spiral-bound notebook with tabs marking sections for bell work, homework, and notes
  - Two-pocket, 3-hole punched folder or other sleeve/pocket for holding worksheets, print-outs and assessments, which is to be kept in the binder
  - Blank 4x6 index cards
  - Pencil pouch (recommended, optional)
- ❖ Pencils, Colored Pencils, Red Pen
- ❖ TI-30xIIS Calculator

**Course Objectives:** To provide students with a solid foundation in algebraic concepts, including but not limited to those topics covered by the 8<sup>th</sup> grade mathematics common core and state benchmarks as well as the Algebra 1 course benchmarks that will be required for success in the high school mathematics sequence.

**Grading:**

Category	Weight
Homework / Daily Work	22.5%
Quizzes	22.5%
Tests	45%
Semester Exam	10%

**Assignments:**

1. Notebook Grades will include:

- *Homework* will be assigned 3 – 4 days per week. Homework completed on time receives a stamp, earning full credit toward the periodic notebook grade. Homework that is incomplete, or submitted one-day late, will receive ½ credit. Homework more than two days late will receive a zero, which will count against the periodic notebook grade. A daily homework “grade” will be viewable in RenWeb, however, these points are NOT averaged into the DailyWork/Homework grading category. The purpose of these records is for teacher and parent reference only.
- *Bellwork* is given at the beginning of most lessons in which an assessment is not given. Bellwork is a part of the periodic notebook grade.
- *Participation*. Each student is called upon to participate during class lessons. A weekly participation grade is averaged into the notebook grades. Tardiness, unexcused absences or lack of preparedness, which prohibit a student from participating during the lesson will count against the weekly grade.

2. Other in-class or out-of-class projects or assignments may be given which will be individually weighted and graded.

**Evaluation:**

1. *Quizzes* will be given during the course of each chapter. The number of quizzes per unit will vary depending on the amount of material that needs to be covered. Students should retain their quiz papers for use when studying for tests and exams.
2. *Chapter Tests* will be given at the culmination of each chapter. One 4x6 note-card, containing chapter notes may be used during testing. Notecards may NOT contain sample problems from quizzes. Test retakes will only be granted to students who have taken advantage of all assistance offered (such as notecards, tutoring sessions, etc.) or otherwise made an effort to address issues with the teacher on topics with which they are struggling.
3. *Semester Exam*. Two, cumulative semester exams will be given. One at the end of the fall semester, and one at the end of the spring semester. Notecards and retakes will not be permitted.

**Exemptions from exams**

Only those students in eighth grade who have "A" average for each quarter in a specific class will be exempt from the semester exams in that class. A student who qualifies to be exempted from taking an examination may choose to take the exam.

**Academic Integrity:**

PACA has worked to foster an environment that encourages each student to embrace the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. As students move on to higher education, they will be expected to uphold academic integrity which will directly impact their successful completion of coursework. For these reasons, any act of academic dishonesty in this course will result in academic, as well as disciplinary, consequences. Unless otherwise instructed, students must work alone on exams and other related course work. Any form of cheating may result in a grade of "0" on the assignment in question and will be treated as a Category II violation of school policies. Communication during exams with anyone other than the professor (including via electronic means such as cell phone, email, chat etc.) will be considered an academic integrity violation. Students should keep in mind that helping another student who is supposed to be working alone is also cheating – it does not matter whether you are giving or receiving the information. So if someone asks you to help them, they are asking you to cheat and endangering your grade in this course – real friends don't do this to each other. All students and parents are expected to be familiar with PACA policies and procedures regarding such matters, as defined by the student handbook.

**Regarding the "High School Credit" component:**

Students completing the entire "Algebra 1 Honors" course with a grade of A or B, and who complete the state-administered End-of-Course Exam (EOC) with a score of 3, 4, or 5 will be eligible to receive high school credit for the Algebra 1 Honors course requirement. Students earning lower than a B in this course, students who receive a score lower than 3 on the EOC or otherwise fail to complete the EOC, or students who fail to demonstrate mastery of all topics necessary to move forward in the high school mathematics sequence (at the discretion of this teacher and the PACA administration) will not be eligible to transfer the course credit to their high school and may have to repeat Algebra 1 Honors, or enroll in Algebra 1-b during their freshman year of high school.