



# JEFFERSON DAVIS MIDDLE SCHOOL

## Syllabus Guidelines

**Course Title: Algebra I**

**Instructor's Name: LaJuana Smith-Jones**

**Jefferson Davis Mission Statement:**

To meet the academic needs of all students, by continually motivating and encouraging students to achieve the highest standards in academics, technology, and the arts by creating a climate of excellence that will empower them to lead productive and fulfilling lives as lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

**Honor Code:**

Students at Jefferson Davis Middle School, will be expected to uphold the four standards of our school and place high value on intellectual rigor and academics.

- **Honesty** – When students practice honesty, the result is fairness for everyone.
- **Respect** – Respect is treating others as we would like to be treated. In an environment of respect, work we call our own, is our own.
- **Responsibility** – Responsibility is the quality of being accountable for our actions and accepting the consequences of our actions.
- **Integrity** – Integrity is a commitment to a value even when others are not present to witness it.

Enrollment at Jefferson Davis School requires a commitment to these principles. Students are expected to acknowledge fully and in detail the work, thought, or ideas of another person if incorporated in work submitted for assessment; to submit separate pieces of work in fulfillment of the requirements of different components (i.e. research papers); to ensure that the work is their own and is never given to another student in any version (hard copy or electronic) knowing that it might be submitted for grading as the work of another student.

In order to prevent a student from gaining an unfair advantage, these behaviors will result in the following:

- 1) **Grade of zero** – all students involved will earn a zero for the work and/or referral to Dean
- 2) **Documentation**- the incident will be recorded and a parent conference will be held

## **Introduction and Course Description:**

The Algebra I course is designed to provide students with opportunities to study and deepen previous understanding of mathematical concepts; as well as set the foundation for future mathematics courses. Throughout the course, students will stretch their thinking, enhance problem solving skills, and make applications to everyday life.

## **Course Outline:**

- Quarter 1:
  - Expressions
  - Equations & Inequalities
  - Introduction to Functions
- Quarter 2:
  - Linear Equations
  - Quadratic Equations & Functions, Part 1
- Quarter 3:
  - Quadratic Equations & Functions, Part 2
  - Exponential Functions
  - Statistics
- Quarter 4:
  - Summary of Functions

## **Educational Materials Needed for Course:**

- Pencils, Handheld Pencil Sharpener
- Black Dry Erase Markers, Highlighter
- Composition notebook
- 3-inch binder, set of divider tabs with pockets  
(1 for all subject areas)
- Loose leaf notebook paper, graph paper
- Ear buds
- Scientific Calculator, preferably TI-30XA
- Wish List:
  - Hand sanitizer, Kleenex, Clorox Wipes

## **Grading Policy:**

Grades are weighted and consist of the following categories:

- **Participation = 20%**
  - Bell work, exit tickets, class discussions and collaborative activities
- **Assessments= 35%**
  - Quizzes, Exams, and Mid-Year Assessment
- **Assignments = 45%**
  - Syllabus, Classwork, Homework, and Partner Assignments

## **Homework/Late Work Policy:**

- Homework is given to students 3-4 days per week to reinforce skills learned in class.

- Work should be submitted by the due date; however, late work will be accepted. For each day that work is late, a penalty of 20% will be assessed.

**Make-up Work Policy:** Regular attendance in each forty-five day grading period is necessary for a student to be successful in school. Missing work shall be made-up for all absences, including suspension. Make-up work shall be allowed for each day of absence. Your child may earn up to full credit for such work submitted with acceptable time frame outlined within DCPS Student Progression Plan.

**Parent/Teacher Conference Information:** If you have a question about your son's/daughter's grade, please check FOCUS Grade Portal via One View to see if the teacher has left any notes about specific assignments. If you still have questions, feel free to email the teacher directly. If you have more general questions about your son's/daughter's overall academic progress, you can contact their school counselor or you can call Ms. Cobb at extension 122 in the School Counseling Office to schedule an appointment for a parent/teacher conference. Please remember that parent/teacher conferences are only available on a limited basis and may not include all of your child's teachers. Please be specific when scheduling a conference to just those teachers that you need to meet face-to-face.

**Tutoring Schedule:** Tutoring will be available by appointment only on Wednesdays before school, 8:15-9:15 a.m.

**Expectation/Behavior:** All students are expected to follow classroom procedures, school wide policies and the Duval County Public Schools Code of Student Conduct. Behavior problems will be addressed through progressive discipline, starting with documented verbal warning and continuing to the issuing of referrals as directed by the Duval County Public Schools Code of Student Conduct.

LaJuana Smith-Jones  
Mathematics Instructor  
[smith-jonesl@duvalschools.org](mailto:smith-jonesl@duvalschools.org)