

# Precalculus

## Mrs. Melissa Kramer

**Course Description:** The purpose of this course is to prepare students who are entering the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics) field by providing the prerequisites for AP Calculus (or Calculus I). Pre-calculus has a focus on functions, upper level trigonometry, vectors, matrices, and probability. *As a prerequisite to calculus, students can expect a significant amount of homework including practice questions, pre-reading, and application problems.*

### **Contact Information:**

**Email:** [melissa.kramer@laingsburg.k12.mi.us](mailto:melissa.kramer@laingsburg.k12.mi.us)

**Phone:** 517.651.5091, extension 2238

**Website:** [mrsmkramer.weebly.com](http://mrsmkramer.weebly.com)

**Text:** 734.972.3565 (for student use)

**Extra Assistance:** I am available for help the following days and times:

Daily: 7:20 – start of school, Tuesdays and Thursdays: after school – 4:00, Fridays: after school – 3:30

\*\*Should a student choose to see Mr. Blemaster or Mrs. Cousineau, please check his/her availability.

**Textbook:** Prentice Hall *Precalculus: Graphical, Numerical, Algebraic*, ISBN: 9780321656933 (8<sup>th</sup> edition). There is no e-text for this textbook.

**Classroom Expectations:** Students are expected to follow PACK rules:

- Prepared: *brings all materials to class, on time to class, asks questions, seeks help before test*
- Accountable: *completes practice/reading in a timely way, actively involved in activities, cell phone is not used in class*
- Character: *is respectful of teacher's time, is using appropriate iPad applications, is respectful of noise level during lectures*
- Kindness: *cleans up his/her own mess, is quiet while others are taking tests/quizzes*

**Hall/Bathroom Passes:** For students to receive the maximum educational benefit, they should remain in the classroom for the duration of the period. Students are to take care of all personal business between classes. Students will be given three passes per term for this class; using more than these passes will result in a 15-minute per pass after school detention. Passes will not be granted during the last 15 minutes of class. Misuse or excessive use will result in refusal of additional passes.

**Cell phones/iPods/Smart Devices:** Cell phones are to be set to silent during class and are kept in a pocket, not out on the desk. *Cell phones, iPods, or smart devices are not to be used during lectures, classroom activities, or tests.* Should a student choose to have a cell phone out during my class, s/he will be asked to place it on my desk. Failure to comply will result in a disciplinary referral (insubordination) and consequences.

**iPads:** iPads were given to students as an educational tool and should be used as such. Students are expected to abide by the school iPad policy and my expectations. Games and social media are prohibited from my classroom. *If a student's iPad becomes a distraction, s/he will be required to leave the iPad in their locker for the remainder of the term.*

**Calculators:** Although a free graphing calculator app is downloaded to each student's iPad, due to testing regulations and iPad limitations, s/he should also have a handheld graphing calculator, like the TI-83, TI-84, or either plus series. *The AP, ACT, SAT, and/or MME administrators will not allow a student to use an iPad on the test, so a student needs to have a handheld for these testing situations.* Should you have questions or financial difficulty, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Grading:** Laingsburg High School's grading scale

A: 95+	B: 83-86	C: 73-76	D: 63-66
A-: 90-94	B-: 80-82	C-: 70-72	D-: 60-62
B+: 87-89	C+: 77-79	D+: 67-69	F: 59 and below

**Semester Breakdown:** Each semester has the following breakdown

1<sup>st</sup> (or 3<sup>rd</sup>) term: 40% weight    2<sup>nd</sup> (or 4<sup>th</sup>) term: 40% weight    Semester Exam: 20% weight

**Grading Procedure:** Students' grades for each term are made up of two components

**Tests/projects (aligned to standards via state requirements): 80% of total score**

**Quizzes/practice/classwork/homework/writings (aligned to test standards): 20% of total score**

The two lowest quiz/practice/classwork scores will be dropped each term

**Missing Assignments:** Students are expected to complete practice assignments (i.e. homework) in a timely manner so they can take an active part in their learning. All practice/projects/in class assignments are due the next day of class unless otherwise stated. Missing work will be indicated in Power School using a **zero and an "M"**. *Students will have until the date of the unit assessment to submit all missing work.* If a student chooses not to submit missing assignments by the date of the unit assessment, the score will become a permanent zero.

**Missing Tests/Assessments:** Students are expected to complete a unit assessment on the scheduled date. If a student is absent on "test day", s/he must take the assessment within two days. Missing tests will be indicated in Power School using an **"M"**. Failure to take an absent assessment will result in a permanent zero.

**Absent Work:** It is a student's responsibility to gather all notes, activities, and practice questions from an absence. Students should first check the weekly calendar found on Mrs. Kramer's weebly page. Once a student returns from an absence, any activities not posted to weebly will be found in the green crate labeled "Absent Work." Finally, an absent student may borrow Mrs. Kramer's notebook (or notes from another student) to complete notes.

**Retesting:** Retesting will NOT be offered this year. Instead, teachers may offer the opportunity to do test corrections to receive **up to half credit** back to the original test.

**School Policies:** Students are expected to abide by any and all rules set forth in their student handbook, such as cell phones, disrespect and insubordination, tardiness, absenteeism, truancy and dress code.

I have reviewed these expectations with my student. Should there be an issue with my child, I encourage Mrs. Kramer to contact me as soon as possible.

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Parent Signature

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Student Printed Name

*Melissa Kramer*

Melissa Kramer, teacher