

Mrs. Fernando AQR Algebra 2

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year! I am excited to share this year with you and can't wait to see the growth that you will have this year in Advanced Quantitative Reasoning. This letter will provide basic information that will allow you to be successful. Please read over it carefully and share it with your parents.

Teacher/parent/student communication is essential to have a successful year. I want each of my students to prosper in this class while preparing for life after high school. I believe will help each student to be equipped for this course by working together to strive for excellence. Please feel free to contact me at school (817-314-1600) and leave me a message or email me at glendafernando@misdmail.org if you or your parents have any questions.

Course Description: Students continue to build upon their K-8, algebra, and geometry foundations and expand their understanding through further mathematical experiences. The primary focal points of Advanced Quantitative Reasoning include the analysis of information using statistical methods and probability, modeling change and mathematical relationships, mathematical decision making in finance, and spatial and geometric modeling for decision making. In Advanced Quantitative Reasoning, students will learn to become critical consumers of the quantitative data that surround them every day, knowledgeable decision makers who use logical reasoning, and mathematical thinkers who can use their quantitative skills to solve problems related to a wide range of situations. They develop critical skills for success in college and careers, including investigation, research, collaboration, and both written and oral communication of their work, as they solve problems in many types of applied situations.

Digital material:

- Skyward - <http://www.mansfieldisd.org/skyward.htm> You should monitor your grade on a regular basis. This will help prevent any "surprises". I will post grades promptly but at least within 5 business days of due date.
- Google Classroom - Students will be guided through the Google Classroom enrollment process using their MISD accounts. Students will be expected to regularly access Google Classroom for assignments, notes, etc.

Classroom Expectations: Both you and I will abide by these policies as well as those established by MISD and Frontier High School.

- **Respect**
 - for yourself - come to class prepared with your materials and assignments; be dressed and groomed so that it will not be necessary during class.
 - For others - classmates are learning and I am guiding that learning, so distracting behavior is not acceptable.
 - For your environment - no food, drinks, or other pollutants
 - For property - clean up after yourself and be careful with items that are placed in your care.
- **Responsibility** - taking care of assignments and other business at appropriate times
- **Reliability** - be present, prepared (by having required materials and student ID on and visible)
- **Ready to participate** - ready and willing to be part of class activities and discussion

Other General Policies and Procedures will be followed according to the Mansfield ISD Policies indicated in the Student Handbook. Each student will receive a handbook; additionally, a digital copy is located on the school website.

Electronics: All electronics, including but not limited to laptops, and iPads will ONLY be utilized when deemed appropriate by myself. Penalties for violating this policy might include taking the item up or a referral. Confiscated items will incur a \$15 fine per district policy.

Cell Phones: Cell phones are to be out of site at all times when you are in my classroom.

- 1st offense – warning and parent contact
- 2nd offense - teacher will hold it for the class period and parent contact.
- 3rd offense and beyond - teacher will take it and turn in the phone into AP. Student will pay \$15 and AP will contact the parent.

If student forgets iPad or laptop, they **cannot** use phone instead. I have 4 laptops and students can check out for the class period with the following consequences:

- 1st time to forget their iPad/laptop and have to borrow one – warning
- 2nd time to forget – parent contact
- 3rd time and beyond to forget - referral

Required Materials

- iPad
- pencils
- binder/folder to keep notes
- 1 box of tissues –OR- 4-pack of AAA batteries

Tutorial: I feel it is my responsibility to help you when you are having problems understanding what we are covering in class. **It is your responsibility to let me know that you are in need of help.** It's best to make arrangements to come to get help before you get too far behind. Tutorial times will be on A days during advisory as well as Monday & Wednesday afternoons from 2:45 to 3:30

Extra Credit: There will be select activities during the semester for you to earn extra credit as well as when you attend tutorials.

Grading Practices: Six weeks grades shall be obtained by averaging daily work (homework, class work, or quizzes, etc.) and major grades (tests, projects, lengthy assignments, etc.). Each six will be evaluated as follows:

Test 50%

Quiz 30%

Assignments 20%

The semester grade will be calculated as follows:

$(1^{\text{st}} \text{ 6-wks} * 26\%) + (2^{\text{nd}} \text{ 6-wks} * 27\%) + (3^{\text{rd}} \text{ 6-wks} * 27\%) + (\text{Sem Exam} * 20\%) = \text{Sem Grade}$

Late work will follow the district policy of 15 points deducted per day for 3 days at which point it will become a zero.

You should monitor your grade on Skyward <http://www.mansfieldisd.org/skyward.htm> on a regular basis. This will help prevent any “surprises”. I will post grades promptly but at least within 5 business days of due date.

Retests: Any student who wants to retake a test (pass or fail) can do so. Both test will be averaged together for the new *final* test grade. Please note the following:

- Student must come to a minimum of 1 tutorial session and make corrections on the original test to be able to retest.
- Tutoring can be after school or during Advisory.
- Student has a 2 week window to retest. (I will give the deadline after each test is given back.)
- **RETEST CAN ONLY BE TAKEN AFTER SCHOOL** unless arrangements have been made between me, parent and Academic Associate Principal for a student who cannot under certain circumstances stay after school.

Absences/Tardies: See the handbook for district attendance policies. It is YOUR responsibility to get any missed information, which includes but is not limited to warm-ups, notes, and assignments. You will need to check the late work folder on the day that you return to school. You are allowed 4 tardies per semester. On the 5th tardy, an office referral will be issued. If you are absent the day homework is due, it is due upon your return. If you miss a test or quiz, you will have one calendar week from the date the assessment was administered to make it up; otherwise, it will remain a zero. **Being absent on a review day does not entitle you miss the test or quiz the following class.** It is imperative you attend tutorials if you are absent!

Course schedule: A six-week calendar is attached for the 1st six weeks and will be posted on the school website for following six-weeks. Please remember, this is a living document and is subject to modification.

Integrity: Please refer to the student handbook discusses district policy on academic dishonesty. There will be no tolerance.

PARENTS & STUDENTS, read the information in this letter carefully. **I need BOTH of you (parent & student) to complete a GoogleForm by Friday, September 4, 2015.** You may access the form by scanning the QR code or following the link: <https://goo.gl/xto5Gy>. Your responses will each count as ½ of the first daily grade for this course. *I will reply to each submission. If you do not receive a reply, please re-submit!*



I am looking forward to getting to know you! Let's have a fabulous year together!

Sincerely,

Glenda Fernando