

# COURSE SYLLABUS (Distance Learning Edition)

## Geometry 1-2

Tamalpais Union High School District

Redwood High School

Larkspur, California

August 19, 2020

### Instructor / Classroom Info

Instructor: Dave Goldsmith (dave@redwood.org and DaveGoldsmith.com)  
Lab 279 (Windows 10 Professional Computer Lab) and Office 277 (945-3639)  
Online Learning Management System: Canvas

### Course Objective

In this year-long course you will develop skills and understanding of the language of geometry, spatial sense, transformations, reasoning and proofs, congruence and similarity, parallel lines and transversals, and three-dimensional figures. Other topics that will be covered include the Pythagorean Theorem, polygons, right triangles, basic trigonometric functions, and some conic sections. For most students, the study of Geometry occurs between the math classes Algebra and Advanced Algebra.

### Required / Desired Course Materials

Textbook: Geometry, by Ron Larson and Laurie Boswell (Big Ideas Learning, 2015)  
Dedicated three-ring math binder containing lined, unlined (blank), graph, and tracing paper  
Protractor and Compass (preferably with locking mechanism)  
Non-phone calculator (preferably with trigonometric functions)  
Pencils (non-colored) and erasers

### Online Class Rules and Procedures

Maintain a reliable and sufficiently speedy Internet connection. (See note below.)

Use a desktop or laptop computer (not a phone or tablet) to connect to our online classes. (See note below.)

Make sure your computer camera is working and turned on at all times, except when told otherwise by the instructor. (See note below.)

Make sure your computer microphone is working at all times and (possibly) muted when you are not speaking. (See note below.)

Use headphones or earbuds, instead of speakers, if audio echo/feedback is a problem. (See note below.)

Your display name must consist of only your first and last name.

Do not sit or lie on a bed.

Wear school-appropriate clothes. No pajamas, hats, caps, hoods, or dark glasses.

Do not use a virtual background, and make sure everything visible through your camera is appropriate for an online class.

Be in a quiet location that will remain free of disruptions and distractions.

Phones, watches, and all other electronics must be nowhere near you.

Do not eat, chew gum, or listen to music.

Due to privacy and legal issues, you should never record any of our online classes.

Unless given permission by the instructor, do not use the live online chat system.

Share your screen only with instructor permission, and make sure everything you display is appropriate and directly related to our class.

Always use a gray pencil or blue/black ink when taking paper quizzes/tests, or when completing paper assignments; never use green, red, orange, purple, etc.

**Note:** If any of these arrangements are a problem, let me know right away so that we can discuss your situation and figure out a way to resolve the problem.

### Quizzes and Tests

A quiz will be given usually every one to two weeks. In addition to the quizzes, at least one comprehensive test will be given during each semester. You will generally be given from 20 to 50 minutes to complete each quiz. Quizzes may not always be announced in advance and may not always be graded. Unless told otherwise, you will not be allowed to use textbooks, notes, or other materials during quizzes and tests.

All graded quizzes and tests will count toward your overall course grade (none will be "dropped"), and you will not be able to retake a quiz or a test due to a low score. Correcting missed problems is always a good idea, but you will earn no additional points for doing so. The point values (weights) of the individual quizzes and tests will vary. The effect of the assessments on your course grade will depend on their point values and the total points for each semester. (See the "Grading Policy" section.) Note that in order to receive credit on quizzes and tests, you must always clearly show all of your work (the details of every step taken to complete each problem).

### Homework

Homework will be assigned on most days that this class meets. While there may be some days when you are able to start homework assignments during class, you are expected to complete homework assignments outside of the regular class periods. Unless told otherwise, assigned homework is due by the end of the day of the next class period. I will generally try to allow time to go over a few of the previous class period's homework questions and problems at the start of each class period.

Homework assignments should be neatly labeled with your name, the date the homework was assigned, and the homework number. Even though every homework assignment must be submitted online, not every assignment will be graded. For each assignment, once the due date has passed, I will decide whether or not that particular assignment will be graded. The overall effect of graded homework on your course grade depends on the point value given to each graded assignment.

Since the purpose of homework is to provide you with additional practice problems to help reinforce the concepts covered in class, homework assignments, when graded, will be graded for completion, not accuracy. However, as is true with quizzes and tests, you must always show all of your work in order to receive credit. Also, even though I will not grade every homework assignment, you are expected to complete and submit each assignment by the end of the day of the next class period after it is assigned. In addition to losing points, not completing homework can make it more difficult to learn course concepts and perform well on quizzes and tests.

### Classwork

Classwork consists of assignments that are usually started and completed within a single class period. However, any classwork not finished in class must be treated as homework and completed by the end of the day of the next class (in addition to any regular homework that is assigned). As is the case with homework, completed classwork should be neatly labeled, and you should always show all of your work. And, like homework, some classwork assignments may be graded (for completion).

### Late Assignments

For each assignment, a specific due date and time will be given. Work that is not turned in by that time (typically the end of the day of the next class period) usually will not be accepted. This means that if the assignment is one that I happen to grade, no credit will be given. When it comes to math, I rarely accept late work.

### Absences and Make-up Work

Unlike last spring, the state is now requiring that accurate attendance be taken every day for all online classes. This will be done via eSchoolPlus. You are expected to be present for this online class every day that it meets and for the entire period (unless told otherwise). If you are absent on a day that an assignment is due, you are expected to turn in the assignment by the end of the next calendar (not class) day. (You must also leave a note when you upload the assignment explaining why it is late.) Work not turned in at that time will probably not be accepted, resulting in a loss of credit if the assignment is graded. If you are absent for an extended period of time, upon your return to class you should talk with me so that we can come up with specific days by which the missed work is to be turned in.

If you are absent on a day when a quiz or test is given, you must make up the missed assessment during the next available "Mandatory Support" period (unless you and I arrange a different day or time). If you are absent for an extended period of time (during which you miss one or more quizzes or tests), upon your return to class you should talk with me to arrange specific days on which to make up the missed assessments.

Make-up quizzes and tests may be different from, and take more time than, the originals. It is always your responsibility to see me about missed assignments, quizzes, and tests. If you fail to see me about missed work immediately upon your return, you may not be allowed to make up the work, resulting in a significant loss of credit. In addition, if you are absent from class without a valid reason, you may not be allowed to make up a missed quiz or test, especially if you attended your other classes.

### Tardies and Absences

To avoid spending class time taking attendance, I will generally try to take roll during the online "passing period" and then click the "Save" button in eSchoolPlus right at the start time of each class period. This means that you must join our online classes before the start time of each period; if you have not joined an online class by the start time, you may be marked absent. However, if you are late to class, but arrive within the first ten minutes of the period, and notify me immediately upon your arrival, and then remind me at the end of the class period (or when I have a free moment), your absence will be changed to a tardy. Keep in mind that your overall course grade may be affected by excessive tardies and absences. Also, we've been told that excessive absences may trigger a response from the Redwood administration.

### Cheating

If you cheat on a test, quiz, or assignment, you will receive zero points for that work, an administrative disciplinary referral will be issued, and your parents/guardians will be notified. If you engage in (non-cheating) inappropriate conduct during a test or quiz, you may receive reduced credit or no credit for that assessment. In both cases (cheating and misbehaving), additional disciplinary action may also be taken, which can include the loss of even more points and/or the lowering of your overall course grade. Note that turning in homework that was completed by, or copied from, another student is considered cheating. If you are ever in doubt about whether a particular action is considered cheating, check with me first. If you need extra help, see me in advance of any upcoming quiz or test. For additional information, see the separate distance learning "No-Cheating" contract that you and a parent/guardian are required to sign.

### Extra Help

I will be available to provide extra help for students during the 75-minute "Mandatory Support" periods on Tuesdays and Thursdays. During those times I will be online so that you can share your computer screen with me. Note that those two periods are the only times that I am guaranteed to be available for extra support, so unless I indicate otherwise, you should assume that I will not be available to provide extra help on any other days or at any other times. You can, of course, always email me (dave@redwood.org) for additional support, but for most math-related questions you will need to wait until one of the above time periods so that we can both be online and I can more easily explain and demonstrate Geometry concepts. Remember, if you are having difficulty understanding a concept, it is your responsibility to seek help. And, if the material that is giving you trouble will be covered on an upcoming test or quiz, the time to see me for extra help is prior to the day of the assessment.

### Grading Policy

With the exception of grade modifications due to conduct and participation, your course grade is based on a point system, which is cumulative for the entire semester. Marking period grades are calculated solely to be available for progress reports; these grades are not averaged. The total number of points for each semester and the percentage value of each test, quiz, and assignment will depend on how many assessments and assignments are given, as well as their individual point values. Those point values will usually be provided online, often before the date of the assessment or the start date of the assignment.

Note that marking period and semester grades are the only overall grades that I am required to produce. At my discretion, I may choose to calculate and publish your current course grade at other times during the semester. Do not ask me to confirm any grade calculations that you make on your own, or what your current grade is in the course. I will not know, and I do not calculate grades on demand. Also, do not ask what score you need to earn on an assessment or assignment in order to obtain a specific overall grade, or what your overall grade will be if you earn a certain score. I will not know the answers to those questions, and I will not make predictions.

Letter grades will generally be assigned as follows:

Below 100% down to 95% → "A"  
Below 95% down to 90% → "A-"

Below 90% down to 80% → "B" range  
Below 80% down to 70% → "C" range

Below 70% down to 60% → "D" range  
Below 60% → "F" (failing)

### Notes

I reserve the right to amend the policies, rules, and procedures outlined in this syllabus at any time, without any advance notice. I also reserve the right to change, at any time, the point value of any test, quiz, or assignment. In addition, at my discretion, and without any advance notice, I reserve the right to raise or lower your overall course grade based on your online class conduct and participation.

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Instructor: Dave Goldsmith

Course: Geometry 1-2

Date: August 19, 2020

I have read the preceding rules, procedures, and policies contained in this course syllabus and understand and will abide by them.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

Student Name (please **PRINT**): \_\_\_\_\_