Dear Student and Family,

Welcome to Trigonometry! This is a semester long course. The ultimate goal is to prepare you for Math Analysis and eventually Calculus. However, even if you never plan on taking Calculus, this is a great course to explore trigonometry in more depth than you had the opportunity to in Advanced Algebra and Geometry. It is a great critical thinking, problem solving course that will improve your ability to learn and apply challenging material. We will review the first two units and study in depth the last seven.

- Trig Functions
- Acute Angles and Right Triangles
- Radian Measure and the Unit Circle
- Graphs of the Circular Functions
- Trigonometric Identities
- Inverse Circular Functions and Trig Equations
- Applications of Trig and Vectors
- Complex Numbers
- Polar Equations and Parametric Equations

The book that we will be using is *Trigonometry* by Lial, Hornsby, Schneider and Daniels. It is a pretty fabulous book that was purchased for us a few years ago by The Vashon Schools Foundation. In addition to the book there are excellent online resources as well. Students will be learning about those in the first few weeks of class.

We will also be using the 8 math practices as laid out by the Common Core Standards. They are as follows:

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others
4. Model with mathematics
5. Use appropriate tools strategically
6. Attend to precision
7. Look for and make use of structure
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning

To make sure every student has the opportunity to learn certain guidelines must be followed. Please read through the following information carefully and sign at the end of the letter.
**WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM ME:**

- I will challenge each of you to think critically, independently, and creatively.
- I will treat each of you with respect.
- I will make an effort to know each of you as an individual.
- I will be available whenever possible to assist you.
- I will do whatever I can to help you learn.

**WHAT I WILL EXPECT FROM YOU:**

- I expect you to be prepared for class. Bring your homework and necessary materials.
- I expect you to be on time.
- I expect you to be courteous and respectful of others.
- I expect you to participate in class.
- I expect you to try your hardest and to succeed.

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**Rules:**

- *Respect other students, me as your teacher, yourself, the work we do together and the resources we have been provided with.*
- *Report to class on time.*
- *Cell phones and all electronics will be turned off and out of sight unless being used for a class activity. (Having a cell phone out during a quiz or test will result in an automatic zero. No exceptions! If it is out during any other time, I will hold it for you until the end of the day and let your parents know.)*
- *No food or drink in class EXCEPT WATER.*
- *Follow all Vashon Island High School rules.*

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**Materials:**

**Students need to bring the following items to class every day:**

1. Loose leaf lined and graph filler paper for assignments that are to be turned in
2. A folder, binder or a section of a binder to keep returned work
3. Pencil, eraser, pens of different colors such as red, green or purple for grading
4. Note book or graph composition book for class notes and investigations
5. Dry erase pens for whiteboard work
6. A graphing calculator is required for this class. We have a class set of TI-84 Plus C Silver Edition calculators purchased by PIE. Thank you! This is the type that I am most familiar with, but you are welcome to purchase whatever makes sense to you. The latest model is the TI-84 CE. This is the one that I would purchase if I were buying one today. It will serve you well all the way through college. You can also use https://www.desmos.com/calculator

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**HALL PASSES:**

Class time is for accomplishing our class goals, and unless a real emergency arises you are expected to stay on task. If you need to leave class you should wait until an appropriate time to ask for a pass and then should be gone for less than 5 minutes.
**GRADING:**

The work you do in my class will fall into two grade book categories ASSIGNMENTS and ASSESSMENTS.

The **ASSIGNMENT** category will make up **25%** of your grade and will include daily assignments, group work and projects.

The **ASSESSMENT** category will make up **75%** of your grade and will include quizzes, tests and final exams.

You will be allowed to correct each test to earn points back. If you score an F on a test, you can earn 10 points back. If you score a D, you can earn 8 points back. If you score a C, you can earn 6 points back. If you score a B or an A, you can earn 4 points back. The most you can receive on a test is 100 points. This must be done within one week of the date the corrected test is shown to you in class. Once the week is past, you will not have the option. I will give you details on this process after our first test! Since you will take a cumulative final at the end of the semester, I strongly encourage you to do this for every test.

**LATE WORK:**

Homework is gone over at the beginning of each class period. And the next assignment is often dependent on you understanding the current one. So, I strongly encourage you to have the assignment done each day. I enter your work Friday after school, so you must have all assignments done by Friday of each week. Beyond that no late work will be accepted unless there are serious extenuating circumstances. Please talk to me as early as possible if this is the case.

**ATTENDANCE & MAKE-UP POLICIES:**

If a student is absent, he/she is responsible for making up all missing assignments.

1st Check my website for the assignments that you missed.

2nd Get a copy of any notes from another student or the website.

3rd Talk to me if you missed a quiz or a test.

- **ASSIGNMENTS** must be completed within the amount of time equivalent to twice the number of days missed. Thus, if one day of school is missed, the student will have two additional days to turn in the assignment or have me stamp it to show it is on time.
- **TESTS AND QUIZZES** must be taken within 2 days of returning to school unless there are serious extenuating circumstances. Being absent on the review day before a test **DOES NOT** excuse a student from taking the test. If you are absent on the test day only, you should expect to take it the day that you return.

NOTE: Important learning activities happen in class that cannot always be made up. If a student is absent from class for a large number of days, even if they are excused, their grade is likely to suffer.
HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE STUDENTS

Whether good or bad, habits are hard to break. I encourage you to develop the following habits to help you succeed in all of your classes.

1. Complete your homework at the same time and place each day in a location free of distractions (screens).

2. Take responsibility for your own learning (Do I understand what the teacher just explained? Or what we went over in our groups? Do I understand what I need to do for this homework assignment?)

3. ASK QUESTIONS!!!!!! If asking questions in front of the class scares you, then make sure you go see the teacher at the end of class with your question. (Teachers love to help students! If you don’t ask questions, we often don’t know that you need help.)

4. Check my website and your grades often! I post assignments and Power Point presentations here. Being aware of your grades and missing work is the first step to fixing a grade you’re not happy with.

5. Actually study for your tests! I will teach you an effective way to do this.
I have read and understand the policies, procedures, and expectations for Ms. Miller’s Trigonometry class.

Class Period:________________________

Student Name Printed Clearly:____________________________________

Student Signature:____________________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature Printed Clearly:____________________________________

Parent / Guardian Signature:____________________________________

Best Contact Phone #:_________________________________

Best Contact email:___________________________________

If Dual Household Family, what is the best way for me to make sure both parents get information? Or if there is additional information, that you need me to know, this is a good place to do that.
INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES OF TRIGONOMETRY STUDENTS

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I want to make sure that you are able to contact me with any questions or concerns about your child’s progress in my class. Please tear off this information page and stick it to the refrigerator or bulletin board or somewhere else where it can be easily found when you want to contact me.

CONTACT INFO
Lisa Miller
206.463.8667
lmiller@vashonsd.org

HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILD HAS HOMEWORK?

I post daily assignments on my website. You may view these by following the steps below:

  Go to: vashonsd.org
  o Click: “Schools” then “Vashon Island High School” then “Teacher Websites”
    • Click: “Lisa Miller”
      • Select “Calendar - Trigonometry” for daily homework.
        If the homework is a handout, you will be able to click on the link to get a copy of it. Test, quiz and project information will also be here, as will power points/notes.
      • Select “Blog – Trigonometry” for a summary of the day’s class.
      • Select “resources” for online resources that may be helpful during the year.

PARENT ASSIGNMENT
Send me an email by September 20th with a short response to each of the points below and I will add 8 points (2 for each question) of extra credit to your child’s grade. This is a great way for me to get to know you a little bit and know that you are able to get in touch with me if you need to. You can check the online grade book to see your score. That way you will also know where to check your child’s grade.

  1. What is your child’s name and what period do they have trigonometry?
  2. What do you expect of your child in my class this year?
  3. What do you expect of me this year?
  4. What do you see as your role in your child’s success in trigonometry?

I am looking forward to a really great year. I hope you feel encouraged to participate in the process!

Thank you,
Lisa Miller