



**Algebra 2/ Trig**  
Kehillah Jewish High School

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**Dr. Zachi Baharav**

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**Room 213**

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**zbaharav@kehillah.org**

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**Open Blocks: 4,5,6,7**

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Course description

Welcome to Algebra 2/Trigonometry. I am looking forward to an exciting year as we continue the journey moving from arithmetic (manipulation of numbers) into the realm of abstract representation of unknowns. This will allow us to solve interesting practical problems, as well as explore general characteristics of different patterns. Algebra is the basis for all advanced math, and can serve you well for any analytic (and non-analytic) endeavors you may encounter.

To this aim, we will pay special attention to “Mathematical thinking”: How do we approach and solve a problem in an analytic manner? We will discuss how we identify what we know, what we want to know, looking at special cases, finding patterns, solving, generalizing, verifying and reflecting. And, of course, the all-important process of getting un-stuck.

It is important that you’ll keep an open mind, be willing to experiment and try things. Above all, come with positive attitude! We are all a community of learners.

Availability and contacting me

I am open blocks 4,5,6 and 7, and plan to be during these times in room 213. I am usually available during these blocks for extra help, and would love to help individual or small groups. Feel free to drop-in. If you want to set a specific date/time to come and see me, email would work well.

Again, I am here to help.

Contacting me: Other than in person, the best way to reach me is through email:

[zbaharav@kehillah.org](mailto:zbaharav@kehillah.org) . I read emails daily on school-days, and will respond within 24-hours.

Textbook

“Algebra 2 with Trigonometry”, by Smith, Charles, Dossey and Bittinger. Prentice Hall.

Calculator

Graphing calculator. TI-84+ recommended.

What to bring to class each day

1. Completed homework
2. Math notebook (or binder)
3. Writing instruments of your preference (pencil, pen, colors)
4. Calculator (only later in the semester)
5. Text book (in some form)
  
6. Enthusiasm and willingness to engage in class

### Detailed course description

We will aim to cover the following subjects from the book:

Review of arithmetic, equations, and inequalities; Functions, graphs; System of equations; Polynomials and polynomials equations; Rational expressions; Powers, roots, and complex numbers; Quadratic equations; Polynomial functions; Exponential and logarithmic functions; Sequences and series; Trigonometric functions and identities.

### Grading

#### Grade weighting

Formal assessments (tests and quizzes) – 50%

Class preparation/Homework – 15%

Challenges – 20%

Timeliness – 10%

Class participation – 5%

#### 1. Class preparation/Homework

Homework problems are graded on completion, not on correctness. This means you have to show adequate effort on ALL questions. Moreover, in most cases the answers to homework problems will be available to you, so you can verify your correctness. Of course, you can come and talk to me with any difficulties you have on the homework problems. Generally, I will take any questions on homework at the beginning of class. At that time, you should make any necessary corrections (preferably with a different-color pen/pencil), so that when I collect homework I would be able to identify areas of difficulty. Also, please feel free to write notes on the homework about areas that were more difficult or confusing.

Following this procedure, when you submit your assignment all problems should be correct, and will serve as a valuable resource for reviewing later on.

These assignments will be graded as 10 (complete and right effort), 5 (partial), or 0 (not submitted).

#### 2. Class participation

During class, I will often be asking students directly at certain points. You ALWAYS have the option of saying ‘pass’ and skip your turn, and it will not count against you in any way. However, be sure you are not always skipping your turn. Your answer is not evaluated for correctness, but rather for its intention and involved thought process.

#### 3. Quizzes

Short quizzes (less than 15 minutes, one or two questions) will be given often, at the beginning of class. Usually there will NOT be advanced notice on quizzes. If you are late, you will not have an opportunity to make up the quiz, unless the tardy is excused.

#### 4. Tests

Tests will be cumulative throughout the year. At least a week notice will be given, and appropriate accommodations made. I expect to have one test every 3 to 4 weeks (end of relevant units in the book).

#### 5. Challenges

Challenges will be assigned throughout the year. Typically, these problems require more effort, and you will be required to detail your thought process. Their aim is to go beyond mere technique, and engage wider perspective as well as mathematical thinking process.

### Collaboration

You are welcome (and are encouraged!) to collaborate on homework, challenges, and class assignments, unless specifically otherwise specified.

However, you are required to submit your own original work. In this regard, giving your work for someone else to copy is NOT ok. Describing and explaining your work to them is great and encouraged.

### Class behavior guidelines

Students are expected to behave according to, and in a manner encouraging, our four commitments:

1. Everyone counts.
2. Everyone has equal access to great learning.
3. Every person's unique talents are valued equally.
4. We take responsibility for ourselves, our learning, and our community.

I expect us all to be courteous and respectful to fellow community members. Some specific items for my class:

1. Water drinking is okay, but please NO FOOD in the class (during class, or when you come on open-block times).
2. Taking pictures of class material is ok, but no other cell-phone usage please.
3. Working on computers and mobile devices when directed is ok, but please no un-related web-activity.
4. Raising your hand and asking to leave class is ok, but please don't leave without being dismissed.

### Academic Integrity and Expectations

Academic integrity is essential to every academic institution. Students are expected to honor this value by acting honestly in every aspect of their academic lives. Violating academic integrity is contrary to Kehillah's core values and will be grounds for disciplinary action. Kehillah students are expected to perform and produce their own work. Substitution of another's work for one's own violates the school's expectation of academic integrity and impedes the intellectual growth of the student.

Academic Dishonesty Includes:

- Presenting as one's own an idea or statement taken in full or in part, or even paraphrased, from some other source – whether another person (such as a tutor or parent), a published work (including electronic and on-line publications), or another student's work.
- Using unauthorized notes or other aids in a test, or copying from or being influenced by another student's work (orally or visually) during a test, quiz, etc., or seeking unauthorized information about a test or quiz.
- Giving unauthorized aid to another student; allowing another student to copy or use one's test, paper, or homework; telling another student what was on a test that could be given to another student at a later time.

- Submitting papers or other work already produced for another course without the approval of both teachers.
- Obtaining help (from a parent, tutor, another teacher, or another student) on homework or take-home tests that exceeds the limits specified by the teacher assigning the work.

The Dean of Students will review the incident and determine the next steps which may include loss of credit for the assignment or test, an academic or disciplinary contract, suspension, and/or expulsion.

Timeliness Policy

- Assignments are given two separate grades: one on quality/content/ accuracy and the other on timeliness.
- Timeliness as a category is 10% of the final semester grade.
- Students have five school days past the agreed upon due date to turn in work. Past the five days, assignments are not accepted. At this point, the work receives a zero for both timeliness and content.
- If an assignment is submitted by the due date, it receives 100% for timeliness and a separate grade for content. If an assignment is turned in after the due date, but before the five school day window has closed, it receives 60% for timeliness, but may receive up to 100% for the content of the assignment.
- Tests and quizzes must also be completed within the five school day window after an excused absence. After the five-day window passes, students are no longer allowed to make up the test or quiz. If students arrange extensions with their teachers, the five-day countdown begins after the agreed-upon due date.
- Teachers have the option of creating a separate category called “Class Preparation” for homework that is required for participation in the next class meeting (such as reading questions, math problems, etc....). These assignments are not subject to a separate timeliness grade. These assignments must be completed by their due date or else they will receive no credit. Assignments in this category will not be worth more than 15% of the total grade for the course.

In this optional category, teachers also have the discretion to take off points for work that is poorly done. For example, students could receive 100% for work that is on time and done well, 60% for work that is on time but done poorly, and 0% for work that is not completed on time.

**Please note:** There must always be room for special circumstances for individual students. If there is a valid reason for work being late (such as illness, emotional concerns, etc....) teachers have the flexibility to offer students an extension on the due dates.

Grading Scale:

93-100	A	73-76	C
90-92	A-	70-72	C-
87-89	B+	67-69	D+
83-86	B	63-66	D
80-82	B-	60-62	D-
77-79	C+	Below 60	F

==== End of Document (next page is for signing)=====

Syllabus signing page – Please return to teacher

**Algebra 2 / Trig**

I look forward to an exciting, productive, and enjoyable year.

Excerpt from the above:

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Availability and contacting me

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Please sign and return to teacher:

Student Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

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

Parent Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_