

# **Trigonometry** Fall 2012 Policy Statement

Mr. Dilsaver

Text: Trigonometry by Larson/Hostetler

Prerequisite: successful completion of Algebra II.

**Assignments and Notebook**– assignments are posted online ([www.johndilsaver.com](http://www.johndilsaver.com)). Solutions are also posted online. Completed assignments are to be kept in the student's notebook. This notebook will be assessed several times during each quarter.

**Quizzes.** We will typically have a quiz the last time we meet each week, generally this will be either Thursday or Friday. Thursday quizzes are generally shorter and worth fewer points, Friday quizzes are larger and worth more points. Students should attempt not to miss class and quizzes. Make up quizzes should be taken during advisory, and will generally be taken from quizzes/tests I've written in the past.

Practice is essential in order to learn to solve math problems. Students will have many opportunities to practice solving problems. Students are strongly encouraged to not get behind in their working of homework problems, and to continue to work on the various problem types until they achieve a thorough understanding.

**Attendance:** Good attendance is necessary for success in Trigonometry. Assignments are posted at [www.johndilsaver.com](http://www.johndilsaver.com) and on the white boards in room H243. Late work is discouraged, and will lessen the likelihood the student will perform well on the quizzes.

**Tardy Policy:** the school tardy policy will be followed. Please carefully note the tardy/absence procedure discussed in class.

**Seating and Participation:** Students will sit in assigned seats. Students should come to class prepared to learn. This means coming to class with their textbook, paper, pencil, calculator, and previous days' assignment. Students should be in their seat ready to proceed when the bell rings.

**Calculator:** A graphing calculator is needed for this class. The recommended series is the TI-84, or TI-83 series. These are very similar, and compatible. The TI-83 and TI-83+ are no longer manufactured, but are readily available both new and used. Students are strongly encouraged to lock valuables like calculators in their locker, and to ***put their name on their calculator***. Students using a laptop may use a TI-XX emulator on the laptop. Smart phone apps are available, please note that your instructor may not always be able to help you figure out how to use them. Your instructor is not anti-calculator. But occasionally a quiz or part of a quiz or an exercise in class may be conducted without the use of a calculator. Being able to use the technology well is nice, but our fundamental goal in this class is to learn to think.

**Class Conduct:** Students are strongly encouraged to ask questions, but are reminded that communication occurs most clearly when only one person at a time is speaking. It is always appropriate to raise ones' hand to ask a question during class. **Class discussion about how to work a particular problem, and student presentation of various different solutions is often the most productive part of this class.**

**Help.** Help exists in several forms to assist the student with completing work on time. Assignments are posted in advance in room H243 and online. Students are encouraged to get help during advisory. Students are encouraged to come in before or after school for help. Find out if anyone else in your advisory class is in Trig, or perhaps had the class last year. **In addition, students are encouraged to form study groups and help each other.** You may also e-mail me at [johndilsaver@mail.ozark.k12.mo.us](mailto:johndilsaver@mail.ozark.k12.mo.us) or [johndilsaver@hotmail.com](mailto:johndilsaver@hotmail.com)

**Algebra/Geo reviews:** At the start of some weeks, an Algebra/Geometry review sheet will be distributed. This review assignment is in addition to whatever Trig assignments we have that week. The purpose is to review Alg I and II and Geometry concepts.

**Weighted Grades** – Trigonometry is a weighted class. This means it is one of the more academically challenging classes offered here at Ozark. On the 4 point grade point scale, an A is worth 5, a B is worth 4 and a C is worth 3 grade points for calculating the students' cumulative GPA. Note that more is expected from the student in a weighted class.

**No Work, No Credit, No Kidding!** Generally, students must show work on problems in order to receive credit. If I asked what  $5(17) = \underline{\quad}$ , I think most students could get the answer without a calculator, and without showing work on paper. But on some of our problems, work simply must be shown. That is why I have the sign posted in my room "No Work, No Credit, No Kidding!"

**Technology use.** Generally, the use of technology is encouraged. Occasionally we may do an exercise or part of a quiz without technology. Using a cell phone to google the date that Leonhard Euler proved the infinite sum of the reciprocals of the squares of the positive integers  $= \frac{\pi^2}{6}$  would be appropriate. Using a cell phone to text your gf or bf or bff or mhfm would not be appropriate.

**Semester Final:** a comprehensive final will be given at the end of each semester covering all of the material for that semester. The semester final will count as 10% of the semester grade.

**Grading.** The students' grade will be determined by their percentage of total possible points. Each quiz is worth points, often 20 to 50 points. The notebook and making acceptable progress on homework is worth typically 70 to 100 points. Other assignments and projects are assigned from time to time and are worth points. The final exam is worth 10% of the students grade. Grades are computed on a percent scale as follows: 90  $\rightarrow$  100% = A, 80  $\rightarrow$  89% = B, 70  $\rightarrow$  79% = C, 60  $\rightarrow$  69% = D, 0  $\rightarrow$  59% = F.

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