

**DOBBS FERRY MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Dobbs Ferry, N. Y. 10522

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**SUBJECT:** Algebra Lab

**GRADE:** 8

The *mathematics* curriculum across grades 6, 7, and 8 is designed to build and strengthen Algebra skills for middle school students. The focus of this course is to pre-teach and re-teach mathematical concepts that are presented in the Algebra class, providing students with more time on task. Selected eighth grade students will participate in the *Algebra Lab* to further develop foundational skills. This will give students an opportunity to clarify misunderstandings, revisit concepts that are still unclear, and apply their knowledge in a variety of engaging ways.

**Anticipated student outcomes:**

**Grade 8 – Algebra Lab** (*Meets every other day*):

*By the end of year, student will be able to work with:*

- Number Systems
  - Apply and extend previous understandings of operations with fractions to add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers
  - Recognize the difference between rational and irrational numbers, as well as the subsets of rational numbers
  - Perform all scientific notation operations
  - Perform all polynomial operations
  - Compute accurately and make reasonable estimates
- Number Theory
  - Identify and apply the properties of real numbers (closure, commutative, associative, distributive, identity, inverse)
- Equations and Inequalities
  - Solve real-life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions and equations
  - Analyze and solve linear equations and pairs of simultaneous linear equations.
  - Work with radicals and integer exponents
  - Define variables and evaluate expressions
  - Solve multi-step equations by combining like terms, using the distributive property, or moving variables to one side of the equation
  - Factoring expressions

- Solve and graph multi-step inequalities
- Plotting linear equations on the coordinate grid
- Analyze and solve verbal problems whose solution requires solving a linear equation in one variable or linear inequality in one variable
- Proportional Reasoning
  - Analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve real-world and mathematical problems.
  - Understand the connections between proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations.
  - Use percentages while problem solving
- Geometry
  - Understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem
  - Understand geometric angles relationships and apply its concepts
  - Understand and apply Transformational Geometry
- Patterns, Relations and Functions
  - Recognize, use, and represent algebraically patterns, relations, and functions

**Materials required or used:**

- Loose leaf paper
- One pencil case which includes pens, pencils, erasers and highlighters
- Graphing calculator (the one used in the Algebra 1 class)

**Criteria for grading:**

There are no grades for this class. Homework is not assigned and exams are not given. However, practice exams and reviews are provided in preparation for students' Algebra 1 course. At the end of each marking period student progress reports/report cards will contain comments regarding their performance in the following areas:

- In-class assignments
- Class participation and effort
- Growth of Understanding
- Behavior

*Outline developed by: Math Department*

*Date: Fall 2013*