

## Payton Math Department Grading Policies 2008-2009

### *Precalculus BC*

#### Quizzes

Students who miss a quiz due to an excused absence or excused tardy must make up the quiz before the following class meeting. Students whose absence or tardiness is unexcused, or do not take the makeup promptly, will not be able to make up the quiz. One quiz grade will be dropped per quarter. Students who have missed more than one quiz should discuss the situation with their teacher individually. Quizzes are “open notes, no book” *with announced exceptions*.

#### Tests

Tests are returned two or more class meetings after they are taken. Solutions will be posted on the bulletin board between rooms 208 and 210. Students absent the day of a test will take the test the following day (not during class-see quiz policy). Students absent the class before a test **will still take the test**. *Students may not use their notes or textbooks for tests*. In general, each test will have a section for which calculators are prohibited, and a section for which TI-NSpire or TI-89 calculators are essential (and allowed). There will be no test questions that require one of these calculators rather than the other. One or two class periods before a test is given, a pre-test will be handed out or made available on the web; students who complete the pretest and hand it in on test day will receive bonus points on their test score. **There will be no corrections after the test has been taken**, although it is always to a student’s advantage to review and correct errors. *If you feel that circumstances make it impossible for you to do your best work on a test, please contact Mr. Karafiol ASAP—before the test is highly preferable.*

#### Homework

Homework is assigned for each class meeting; students are expected to spend a half hour or more on average for each assignment.

An assignment can be turned in after its due date if a student has an excused absence from school the day the work was due, or the day the work was assigned. In that case, the student should hand in the first assignment (the one due the day he or she was absent) at the next class meeting. The student should hand in the second assignment (the one assigned the day he or she was absent) at the following class meeting. If a student has missed two or more consecutive days of class, he or she must meet with his or her teacher to arrange a schedule for making up the work. Up to **two** assignments can be turned in late per quarter (submitted the class period one meeting after it was due); students do not have to come to tutoring to work on the late assignment. Further missed assignments will earn a zero and cannot be made up.

If a student’s work clearly indicates the need for tutoring, the teacher may indicate so by writing TMFC (Tutoring Mandatory for Credit). In this case a student has up to a week to come to math tutoring to complete the assignment. Students must come to class with the homework attempted to get this option.

On most days, answers to homework questions will be given in class (we expect that students will have already marked their answers right or wrong when those answers are in the back of the text); these assignments earn a maximum of four points. Homework will be collected by the instructor on the other days and graded out of eight points. Student work will be assessed based on accuracy **and** presentation.

#### Other Assessments

Students will complete graded writing assignments each semester. These essays are in addition to computer projects (statistics, geometry) that will involve some writing. Students will frequently work in groups in class; some of the work done in this context will be graded. Students are also required to contribute weekly to our class blog, hosted on the *Art of Problem Solving* website and accessible from my

webpage, sites.wpcp.org/karafiolp. Blog postings will be scored out of 4 points: 3/4 for a detailed question about mathematics, and 4/4 for an answer or solution to a math problem (either from a previous blog question, or from homework, quizzes, tests, math contest, etc.). Extra credit may be awarded for multiple or outstanding postings. Blog grades form a substantial part of the “Other” category.

### Determining Grades

Students’ grades will be determined by the four categories above.

Quizzes	20%	A	90-100
Tests	40%	B	80-89
Homework	20%	C	70-79
Other	20%	D	60-69
		F	<60

In determining the semester grade, each quarter’s grade will be worth 40% and the semester final exam will be worth 20% of the final average.

### Special Education Grades

Grades for a student with I.E.P. or other accommodations will be determined in conference with the special education staff member assigned to that student. Those grades will be based on guidelines similar to those above but modified in accordance with the I.E.P.