

Math Office: Rm. 223 (SE corner)  
Office Phone: 309-438-3556  
Home Phone: 309-663-9971 (*before 10:30 pm*)  
E-mail: masondg@ilstu.edu  
Website: [www.uhigh.ilstu.edu/math/sondgeroth/biogroth.html](http://www.uhigh.ilstu.edu/math/sondgeroth/biogroth.html)

Schedule: Geometry – 8:00, 12:00, and 1:00  
Algebra II w/ Trig – 9:00  
Office Hours: 10:30 – 12:00 and 2:00 – 3:00  
Before and after school by appointment  
HW Blog: [sgrothfam-hw.blogspot.com](http://sgrothfam-hw.blogspot.com)

**Materials you should bring to class with you everyday:**

- 1) Writing utensil – preferably a pencil; black or blue pens are acceptable
- 2) Netbook – any misuse of the netbook/internet will be dealt with to the full extent of the Appropriate Use Policy
- 3) Textbook – Algebra 2 w/ Trig: Algebra 2 (Illinois Version); Holt (2007)  
– Geometry: Geometry; Holt (2007)
- 4) Calculator – Algebra 2 w/ Trig: a graphing calculator (TI-83 or TI-84) is required  
– Geometry: a scientific calculator (ie TI-30 or TI-36) is required

*Note: Even though your netbooks are equipped with a calculator, there will be test days when you are not allowed to use them. Additionally, cell phones should NOT be used as a calculator during class at any time.*

- 5) Paper – spiral notebooks or loose-leaf paper in a 3-ring binder for submitting assignments or taking notes
- 6) Completed Assignment – students should self-check homework assignments prior to coming to class

**Classroom Procedures**

Each day, students should ...

- Get to class on time and have assigned homework completed.
- Bring appropriate materials, including netbook, notes, writing utensil, calculator, textbook, etc.

When students enter the room, they should ...

- Sit down in their assigned seats and set out or upload homework BEFORE talking to classmates.
- Respect school property by throwing garbage in trash cans, by recycling unneeded papers, by keeping feet off desks and chairs, and by refraining from writing on desks, chairs, and white boards.

Students must practice their math skills in order to master them, so ...

- Some type of homework assignment will be assigned nearly every day.
- On many days, students will have time to begin (and often complete) this work ... use class time wisely!

On test days, students should ...

- Be particularly quiet when taking their seat and do nothing to delay the start of the test.
- Listen to instructions carefully and ask personal questions after others have begun.
- Remember to bring a calculator to class on test days, as students may not be allowed to use their netbook.

**Student Responsibilities**

- 1) Show courtesy and respect to your teachers and classmates at all times.
- 2) Keep the classroom neat and clean. Do not litter and do not bring food, drinks, gum, etc. into the classroom.
- 3) Bring your netbook to class with you everyday and use it appropriately. Any misuse of the netbook/internet will be dealt with to the full extent of the Netbook Agreement and Appropriate Use Policy.
- 4) Cell phones are not to be used in the classroom; they will be confiscated and given to Mrs. Markert.
- 5) Listen to and participate in the lesson/discussion each day. Have the confidence to ask questions.
- 6) Do your best on every assignment. Work neatly and carefully on homework assignments and tests. Show appropriate work and be prepared to explain the process used to achieve an answer when asked to do so.
- 7) Cheating, in any form, will not be tolerated and maximum penalties will be assessed.
- 8) Students whose behavior is detrimental to class discussion will be removed from the class.
- 9) Students who are excessively absent or uncooperative will be removed from class on a permanent basis.
- 10) Don't wait to get help. Students may receive assistance outside the classroom from several resources:
  - Don't hesitate to call (438-3556) or e-mail (masondg@ilstu.edu) if you have questions or concerns.
  - Come to the Math Office. Time permitting, any math teacher can help with most questions you might have.
  - Schedule an appointment to work with one of the many college students completing their pre-student teaching experiences. They are available throughout the day to work with students free of charge.
  - Visit Mrs. Lewis in The Learning Center (Rm. 237) to arrange for a U-High peer tutor to assist you.
  - Additional options are listed on the Math Department website (<http://www.uhigh.ilstu.edu/math/index.htm>).

## Grading Procedures

- 1) Students will earn points in this class in one of five ways: a) unannounced HW and/or “pop” quizzes, b) announced mid-chapter quizzes, c) chapter tests, d) individual and/or small group projects, and e) select homework assignments. One extra credit opportunity per chapter is generally provided.
- 2) Homework will be assigned almost every day. The purpose of homework is for students to practice a concept taught in class and in turn to provide feedback to both the teacher and the students themselves as to their level of understanding. Additionally, homework problems may serve as extensions of a previous concept or provide an opportunity to explore an upcoming topic. For these reasons, most HW will NOT be graded
- 3) All daily assignments will be reviewed in class, answers will be provided, and students will have the opportunity to ask questions on problems/concepts they don't fully understand. HW will only be graded for correctness if the assignment follows a previous assignment on the same topic.
- 4) On rare occasions, points will be awarded for non-graded assignments as follows:

3 – completed assignment w/ appropriate work	1 – completed less than 50% of assignment
2 – completed more than 50% of assignment	0 – made no attempt to complete assignment

**Note: Students must show all appropriate work to receive full credit on a non-graded assignment.**
- 5) A diligent effort will be made to detail the level of effort and investment that a student is making in this class. For HW assignments that are not graded, students will be awarded a “completion” grade as follows:

2 – significant evidence of investment on the assigned homework
1 – marginal evidence of investment on the assigned homework
0 – minimal evidence of investment on the assigned homework

**Note: By reporting this information separately, students and parents can better interpret the level of mastery of course content in relation to the level of investment in daily preparation for this class.**
- 6) Approximately two times per week, students will complete a 5-point homework quiz. Students will be allowed to use class notes and prior HW assignments to complete these mini-assessments.
- 7) “Pop” quizzes covering homework and/or discussion notes are worth 10 – 20 points and will not be announced in advance. Mid-chapter quizzes covering 2 – 4 sections of material are worth 30 – 70 points and will be announced at least one day in advance. Students should expect at least two announced quizzes per chapter.
- 8) End-of-chapter tests are worth 100 points and will be announced at least 2 – 3 days in advance.
- 9) As many as four individual and/or group projects may be assigned throughout the year. Students will be provided with a detailed timeline and rubric for each project. Each project will be worth 50 – 100 points.
- 10) Nine week grades are based on a percentage of the total points earned using the following scale:

A: 100% - 90%	B: 89.5% - 80%	C: 79.5% - 70%	D: 69.5% - 60%	F: 59.5% and below
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- 11) Grades will be updated on Skyward (Family Access) at least one time each week. It is the responsibility of each student to regularly check his/her grade for accuracy and to bring discrepancies to my attention ASAP.
- 12) As per school policy, parent/teacher conferences will be provided one time each semester. Additional conferences can be arranged with Mr. Sondgeroth on an “as needed” basis.
- 13) A final exam will be given at the end of each semester. The exam will contain 50-75 multiple choice questions and 10-15 short answer questions and will cover all material discussed during the current semester.
- 14) Semester grades are calculated using the 90-80-70-60 scale above and the following breakdown:

80% of the semester grade is determined by the first (40%) and second (40%) 9-weeks grades
20% of the semester grade is determined by the semester final exam(s) (individual and/or group)

## Make-up Work

- 1) Avoid absences whenever possible. If you know in advance that you will be absent from a class, contact me prior to the absence to discuss the material and assignments for that class. If a student misses class for any reason other than a school-approved field trip or activity, he/she must present an appropriate admit slip.
- 2) For all absences, it is the student's responsibility to find out what was covered in class. Homework assignments are updated online (sgrothfam-hw.blogspot.com) by 2:30 each day. Turn in all late assignments at the start of class and get any notes from a responsible classmate. Students should also check online ([www.uhigh.ilstu.edu/math/sondgeroth/biogroth.html](http://www.uhigh.ilstu.edu/math/sondgeroth/biogroth.html)) for notes or handouts that may have been posted.
- 3) Graded assignments should be submitted to the teacher upon your return to class.
- 4) If you miss class on the day of a test, plan on taking the test on the day after you return to school. If you miss class the day before the test, plan on taking the test on the day it is scheduled; students are afforded the opportunity to review the material during class time and then schedule a make-up test time later the same day.