
Universal Audenried Charter High School

Essentials of Algebra | Semester 1 · 2026–2027

Instructor: Mr. Sklar

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shaisklar@uarockets.org

Classroom: B308

Course Credit: 0.5 credit (Semester 1 course)

Daily Schedule & Google Classroom Codes

Period	Google Classroom Code
1st Period — Algebra Statistics	
2nd Period — Prep	
3rd Period — Algebra II	
4th Period — Essentials of Algebra	ynwhcfvi
5th Period — Essentials of Algebra	ylbq5j3d
6th Period — Prep	
7th Period / Lunch — Prep	
8th Period — Fundamentals of Math	
9th Period — Prep	
Office Hours!	

Course Description and Goals

Essentials of Algebra is a semester-long course (Quarters 1–2) designed to strengthen the foundational number sense scholars need. The course targets the arithmetic fluency gaps that most often hold students back: automaticity with multiplication and division facts, confidence with fractions and decimals, and comfort working with negative numbers. Students move through short, focused units with daily practice, frequent low-stakes checks (exit tickets, quick assessments), and real-world application.

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Recall multiplication and division facts with automaticity, and apply long multiplication and long division to multi-digit whole numbers
- Apply divisibility rules and find GCF/LCM to simplify fractions and solve real-world grouping problems
- Simplify, compare, order, and perform all four operations with fractions and mixed numbers
- Read, compare, round, and perform all four operations with decimals, and convert fluently between fractions and decimals
- Begin working with negative numbers as a foundation for integer operations
- Apply these number-sense skills to multi-step, real-world word problems
- Use these skills to master linear equations for the Algebra Keystone

Course Topics

Quarter 1 — Number Sense & Fluency

- Unit 1: Multiplication & Division Fluency
- Unit 2: Fractions — Operations & Applications

- Unit 3: Decimals — Operations & Applications

Quarter 2 — Algebraic Foundations & Keystone Prep

- Unit 4: Integers, Expressions & Properties
- Unit 5: Linear Equations
- Unit 6: Keystone Review & Mock Assessment
- Unit 7: Post-Keystone Extension

What You Need to Know to Succeed

Necessary Course Materials

- Pencil
- Notebook
- Folder/Binder

Class Expectations

- **One Voice** — One person speaks at a time.
- **Stay in Seat** — Ask before leaving your seat.
- **Stay Engaged** — Be active, focused, and ready to learn.
- **Show Respect** — Speak kindly, no profanity.

Class Routines and Procedures — Simplified

- Enter quietly and begin the “do now” immediately.
- Be prepared with a notebook, folder, pencil, and homework.
- Complete and submit exit tickets before dismissal.
- Maintain professionalism and respect at all times.
- Ask for permission before leaving your seat.

Class Routines and Procedures — Detailed

Routine/Procedure	What this looks like in our class...
Entering the Classroom	I will greet scholars at the door. Scholars enter quietly, pick up the “one-pager”/guided notes from the “today’s work” bin, and sit in their assigned seat with their pencil and notebook ready. Scholars must show both items. If a pencil is forgotten, one may be borrowed; if a notebook is forgotten, scholars must retrieve it (and risk being marked tardy).
Late Arriving Scholars	Scholars must present a pass if late. Without one, they are marked tardy in PowerSchool. Scholars lose the timeliness participation point and will earn a 0% on the “Do Now” if they arrive after the submission time. All late scholars must sign the tardy log.
Handing out Work (physical/digital)	Scholars collect any distributed work (notes, worksheets, one-pagers) at the start of class from the “today’s work” bin.

Routine/Procedure	What this looks like in our class...
Material Distribution (Novels/Textbooks/Lab Equipment)	Shared classroom resources (novels, lab equipment, learning aids) are available at designated spots (shelf/bin).
Collecting Materials	All materials must be returned before the end of class. Assessments are put in the bin. Notebook checks will be done at random — each page must have the scholar's name at the top right.
Laptop Distribution/Collection	Laptops and desktops may only be used with teacher permission and for class assignments. No phones are allowed.
Getting out of Seat (restroom, trash, tissues)	Scholars remain seated unless given permission. Only one scholar may be out at a time. No restroom use in the first 15 minutes or last 15 minutes of class. Scholars must sign in/out on the bathroom log. Scholars are expected to return within 5 minutes.
Visitors	Only rostered scholars may remain in class. Visitors without permission will be asked to leave.
Asking for Help	Scholars must raise their hands. Before asking the teacher, scholars should first seek help from two peers.
One Voice	When Mr. Sklar asks for "One Voice," all scholars must stop talking and listen. Disruptive scholars will lose participation points.
Make-up Work (Trips/Absences)	Scholars are responsible for requesting make-up work upon return. They have three days to complete it .
Dismissing/Exiting Classroom	I dismiss the class. Scholars must remain seated until instructed to leave.

Schoolwide Values & Classroom Expectations

Value	What This Looks Like
Respect for ALL	Speaking to others respectfully, following rules for phones, assume best intent, act with best intent.
Excellence in all areas	Always be working on something, always working to grow, to move up to the next level in all areas.
Individual Responsibility	Accepting consequences for our actions and doing better the next day or next moment, carry yourself with integrity.
Dedicated to our future	Everything we do in class should contribute to our future. You are here to become the best version of yourself.

What happens if I am not meeting the school expectations?	What This Could Look Like
Teacher Redirection	Asking the scholar to stop the behavior, telling the scholar what they should be doing.
Teacher Intervention	Loss of points from grade, call guardian, dean referral.

Cell Phone Policy (and Other Electronic Devices)

Cell phones, smartwatches, earbuds, and similar devices should not be seen or heard in class unless a staff member authorizes their use for instruction, and must stay on silent at all times. If a device is seen or heard, the scholar will be directed to put it away; refusal or failure to comply results in a PBIS referral.

to the Dean, who will contact the parent/guardian and require the device be surrendered at morning entry (returned at 3:30 p.m. dismissal) beginning the following school day.

Infraction	Consequence
1st	Device collected at morning entry; parent/guardian notified.
2nd	Device collected at morning entry; parent/guardian notified.
3rd	Mandatory parent/guardian conference the next school day; device surrendered daily for 10 consecutive school days ; scholar and parent/guardian sign an Electronic Devices Contract.
4th	Device surrendered daily for 30 consecutive school days .
5th	Device surrendered daily for the remainder of the school year .

Devices must also be turned in for Quarter Final Exams, Keystone Exams, AP Exams, and any other designated testing day. A device found during a required collection day will be confiscated, the parent/guardian notified, and the scholar will receive a zero on all exams scheduled that day.

Turning in a Non-Working Device

Scholars who intentionally submit a non-working or inoperable device in an attempt to circumvent this policy will be considered in violation of the Electronic Devices Policy and will advance to the next level of the progressive discipline process.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to help scholars develop responsible technology habits while maintaining a safe, respectful, and distraction-free learning environment. Universal Audenried Charter High School is committed to partnering with families to ensure scholars graduate prepared for college, careers, and lifelong success.

Class Structure

1. Do Now
2. Hook/anticipatory set
3. Direct instruction
4. Guided practice
5. Independent practice
6. Exit ticket

Attendance Policy

- You are expected to attend class every day, on time.
- Arrival after the 2nd bell without a pass will be marked late.
- Late without a pass results in an automatic deduction in participation grade.
- Repeated lateness/absences will result in parent contact.

Absence Policy

- If you are absent, please email me so that I can excuse you.
- You will have 3 days to make up the work upon your return.

Assessments

- Assessment will be announced at least one week in advance.
- Assessments cover major units and skills.
- There will also be a comprehensive final review of Keystone Prep in Q2.

Exit Tickets

- Given daily at the end of class.
- Used to track progress.
- Treated as mini-assessments (graded like tests).
- Must be completed silently and independently.
- Missed exit tickets cannot be made up unless the absence is excused.

Participation

- You must participate by answering, asking questions, and working with peers.
- Participation includes: answering questions, asking thoughtful questions, staying engaged in group work, and contributing to discussions.
- Scholars who are off-task, using phones, or refusing to engage in class discussions will lose their participation credit.

Daily participation is scored out of 3 points, based on whether the scholar arrives on time, stays off technology, avoids disruptions, completes the Do Now, and submits the exit ticket.

Points	Criteria
3	Scholar arrives on time, stays off technology, has no disruptions, completes the Do Now, and submits the exit ticket.
2	One of the above is missing.
1	Two of the above are missing.
0	Three or more of the above are missing; the scholar receives no credit for the day.

Make-Up Policy

- If you are absent, communicate with me as soon as possible to discuss how you will make up missed notes, assignments, quizzes, or assessments.
- Missed exit tickets and “Do-Nows” cannot be made up unless the absence is excused.
- Make-up quizzes and tests must be arranged within 3 school days of returning.
- Extenuating circumstances (illness, family emergency, sports, testing, etc.) will be handled with flexibility if you stay in communication. You are scholars — I expect you to communicate your absence via e-mail, even if you are unexcused.

Grading

Grading Scale

Weight	Category
40%	Assessments, Tests/Quizzes, Projects, Open-Ended Questions (CRQ); (at least 5 per quarter)
50%	Scholar Work: classwork, homework, exit tickets (daily)
10%	Attendance, Active Participation, Professionalism (daily)
100%	Total

Semester Grade Breakdown

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Total
40% (+10% Q1 Exam)	40% (+10% Q2 Exam)	100%

**This means that 20% of your final grade is from your Quarter Exams.*

To Be Successful

- Attend all classes and keep track of due dates and assessment dates.
- Ask questions. Come to office hours or email me if you need help.
- Never be afraid to try!
- Use your resources: office hours, tutoring, and IXL practice.
- Remember: effort and persistence are more important than perfection.
- Check PowerSchool often to monitor your grades.

Important Notes

- I am here to support you.
- If you need help, I am here for you.
- Communicate early and often — if something is affecting your learning, let me know.
- All policies are designed to help you succeed.
- My goal is not just for you to pass, but to grow in confidence and independence as a learner.
- **ABWOS** — Always Be Working on Something. Even when you finish an assignment, there is always something you can be working on. You are here to work!

Note on Academic Dishonesty

Any instance of cheating will result in an automatic grade of “0” on the assessment and a write-up for academic dishonesty.

Parent/Guardian Syllabus Acknowledgement

Parents & Guardians,

Please take a moment to answer the questions below and provide a signature to indicate that you've reviewed the 2026–2027 Essentials of Algebra (Semester 1) syllabus with your scholar.

Your scholar's name: _____

Your name/how *you* prefer to be addressed: _____

What is the best way to contact you about your scholar? _____

Your phone number: _____

Your email address: _____

Is there anything you feel I should know about your scholar going into this school year?

Please sign below and have your scholar return this form by **Friday, September 4, 2026**.

Thank you,
Mr. Sklar

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____