

High School Math vs. College Math

High School	College
Class Time	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Activities include correcting homework, answering homework questions, lecture, group work, and working on homework in class. All of this can be done because there are two to three times as many class hours in high school math than in college math. 2. Listening in class is usually sufficient. Notes may not need to be taken or may only include the problems on the board. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is no correcting homework, and very little working on homework in class. Some homework questions <i>may</i> be answered in class, but it is expected that students will use the teacher's office hours, the math center, peer tutoring, and course software to answer most of their questions. 2. Listening is not enough. Notes must be taken, and should include everything that the teacher is saying as well as everything on the board, including any <i>words</i>.
Homework	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Homework assignments can often be completed in less than one hour. 2. Teachers often check homework, and may count homework for a large part of the grade. Homework is done in order to receive a grade. 3. Teachers remind students of incomplete work, and accept late work. 4. Homework consists of using a calculator and writing down answers. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For each hour in class, successful students spend 2 to 3 hours <i>or more</i> doing homework. 2. Teachers usually do not grade homework. Homework is done in order to learn the material and to pass quizzes and tests. 3. Students are not reminded of incomplete or missing work. Late work may not be accepted. 4. Homework consists of reviewing class notes, reading the textbook, and writing down the problem and all work steps on your homework sheet before writing down the answer.
Grades	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A grade of D is considered passing. 2. Consistently good homework grades may raise your overall grade when test grades are low. 3. Make-up quizzes and tests are almost always available. 4. Extra credit is used to improve grades. 5. Effort counts. Courses usually reward a "good faith effort." 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A grade of C or higher must be achieved in order to register for the next math class. 2. Grades on tests provide most of the course grade. 3. Instructors do not routinely give make-up quizzes and tests. 4. Extra credit is <i>limited</i> and does not make up for poor work on quizzes and tests. 5. Results count. A "good faith effort" will help the student achieve good results but will not substitute for those results.

In college, the course syllabus is the place to find the course "rules". *Read and Save It!!*