

# Mr. D's Class Rules

1. Never say, "I can't!" There is always a way to solve a problem in my class. If you want to say something, say (to yourself, please, in your head), "I don't know how to do this but I'm going to learn how."
2. Do not talk when your teacher or a fellow student who "has the floor" is talking. This will irritate me. As a general rule, don't irritate Mr. D.
3. Be courteous to others at all times. This includes everyone, even when they are not around.
4. Turn in your completed homework on time. It is a little known fact that this causes a student to do well on tests and get good grades overall. You are all capable of doing the work I will assign you. It's up to you to make the time to do it, even if that includes getting extra help.

## Grading Policy

**Homework:** I'm a little lenient on the homework front. If you truly don't understand what you're doing and need a little extra help/time, I will accommodate. On the other hand, if you were just lazy or didn't follow simple directions or weren't paying attention in class when we went over what's on the homework, then I will show no mercy. You'll either get a zero on the assignment or very little credit.

Homework should be completed in pencil, preferably mechanical. Dull wood pencils make fat lines that can make your work messy. I will not accept papers written in ink! Homework assignments must be done on loose-leaf paper, or paper that can be placed in a 3-ring binder (see below). Points will be lost for paper that still has the "fringes" on it.

**HW Grading:** I usually grade homework out of 5 points. If you get a check mark on your paper, that means you received all 5 points (100%), which is a good thing. If you receive a check-minus, that means 4 out of 5 (80%). Check-minus 2 is 3 out of 5 (60%), etc. If I grade any assignment other than out of 5 points, it will be indicated on your paper.

**Tests & Quizzes:** I will give you partial credit for work done, as long as that work is correct. If you've got no clue as to what you're doing on a problem and put down a bunch of gibberish, you will get zero credit. *I need to see that you have at least a little understanding of the problem.* Of course, there is no partial credit on multiple choice or other types of problems that require specific answers and little or no work.

**Test & Quiz Grading:** Tests are worth 50 points and quizzes worth 25 points. There will usually be one test per chapter and up to two quizzes. This makes a quiz equivalent to five HW assignments, and a test equivalent to ten HW assignments.

**Bonus:** In general, I don't give bonus assignments. There are a few ways, however, for you to still receive bonus points:

- 1) Complete a perfect homework assignment, meaning all work *and* answers are correct, and the work is neat and legible (no torn up papers, smeared pencil/ink, spaghetti sauce stains, etc.). You will receive a **check+** (6 out of 5), equivalent to 120% on the assignment.
- 2) On a test, quiz, or homework assignment, I may assign a problem that may require a little more work and thinking "outside of the box." Amount of bonus will vary from problem to problem. You will not lose points if you do not attempt an answer.
- 3) Occasionally, you will have class engineering projects, which is just my way of having science and math related contests in class. I'll explain these in a little more detail when the time is right.

## Class Binder

Each student must have a one-inch binder (or equivalent) for his/her class work. All homework (and notes if you don't use a notebook) must be put into the binder in the order in which they have been given. You will need to have dividers for your different sections. You should at least have sections for notes, homework, tests, quizzes, and possibly a miscellaneous section for worksheets and other handouts. This organization will be extremely helpful when it comes time to study. I *may* also take a grade on how well you've kept your binder organized and up to date.

## Explanation of Symbols:

From time to time you will see the following symbols on an assignment or test/quiz after I have graded and returned it to you. This is your key as to what those symbols represent:

<b>HW</b> —homework	<b>cw</b> —copied problem wrong from book	<b>co</b> —check odds
<b>sm</b> —steps missing in your work	<b>See Red</b> —look for red pen in your HW; check and correct	