

PASTOR DAVID ORTEGA



BIO

Our family moved to Gilroy in 2016 and we have enjoyed every minute of it! We have had the pleasure of serving the Vine Community for two years. I continue to be *extremely impressed* with the camaraderie of the students, the care of the staff, and the general level of individual talents I have observed in the student body.

I currently serve as an associate pastor at The Foothills Church, where my responsibilities range from leading worship, preaching, audio/visual production, and a whole lot of “other”! I received my undergraduate degree in Biblical Studies at Life Pacific University in San Dimas, California, and my Master’s Degree in Divinity at Azusa Pacific University (Azusa, CA). I previously taught foundational and practical theology at the undergraduate level for three years. Additionally, my wife and I served for years with youth ministry at our church in Southern California where we first met. We were also Senior Pastors for six years in Seymour, Connecticut. We have three children, ages 18, 15, and 13. My wife teaches High School Psychology at Monte Vista Christian School. I am passionate about serving God’s people and I am incredibly honored to partner with you this year to help our kids increase their knowledge level!

SHORT CLASS SUMMARY

PRE-ALGEBRA

I hope that I can effectively convey to your students my *enjoyment* of math and my *passion* for learning. My favorite teachers growing up were those who were knowledgeable and who seemed to sincerely enjoy what they taught. That is my goal this year. Math is fun, engaging, stimulating, and deeply important for our kids’ development. I am truly excited to take this pre-algebra journey with the students of Vine this year.

DETAILED CLASS SUMMARY

PRE-ALGEBRA

Required Textbook:

[Pre-Algebra, 2nd Edition, BJU Press](#)

*Note: These may be available from other vendors as well

Class Summary:

Math has always been one of my favorite subjects. I am especially happy to work with students on introductory algebraic concepts. At this point in their math studies, students are moving into the slightly more abstract as they firm up their ability to utilize letters and symbols to represent unknown quantities. These universal theories are foundational to so much of our everyday life.

My goal is to ensure that students are able to demonstrate their proficiency in each successive skill set and that they are sufficiently challenged as they work.

Required Materials:

- Textbook
- #2 pencil, sharpened
- Lined paper, preferably college-rule
- Green pen (**not** marker or colored pencil)
- Calculator (phones are not permitted)

Grading:

Students will be graded on the following assignments as we go:

1. Homework

- a. Homework is assigned each class and due at the **beginning** of the next class
- b. Homework is practice, therefore students will receive **full credit** if homework is completed and turned in on-time
- c. Students will **not receive full credit** if they arrive to class late or if their homework is incomplete
- d. Students will also lose points if they do not have a **green pen** for grading as we go through the homework together

- e. A **star** symbol on top of the homework notifies me if a student struggled with that particular assignment
- f. Work must be shown

2. Quizzes

- a. Quizzes are often open-book and help students review material

3. Tests

- a. Tests are created by me and will either be taken during class or at home
- b. Tests are taken **without** the use of notes or textbook
- c. A student's absence during test day **may** result in loss of points
- d. We will take one test for **every chapter** of the book
- e. I have created **study guides** for every test
- f. Work **must be shown** on each test

4. Participation

- a. Students must be at class on time
- b. Students must have all required class materials
- c. Student assignments must be completed before class begins
- d. Students must be attentive and participatory in class discussion
- e. Homework must be done neatly and legibly

Communication

- All assignments will be posted on *Google Classroom*. Students may be added with a personal email if desired.
- Parent communication will be done via email.
- All homework assignments must be submitted in-person.
- **I do not accept homework (or pictures of homework) sent by email or text.** It is too hard to keep track of everything if I don't keep to this rule.
- Please email me if your student will not be able to attend a class due to illness.
- All homework should be completed; in case of illness, it can be completed late with no points deducted.
- Please communicate with any other concerns or regarding prolonged illnesses.
- Note: Parents may not excuse their child from any assigned work unless it is a pre-arranged agreement with the instructor.