

Ghidotti High School

Mr. Levinson

Problem Solving

Introduction

Welcome to GECHS's Problem Solving course. I am very excited about the coming school year and look forward to supporting your child in his or her pursuit of learning. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me by e-mail—nlevinson@njuhsd.com.

Sincerely,



Noah Levinson

Course Description

Problem solving encourages students to learn strategies and participate in activities that help develop critical thinking skills. This course consists of largely group based activities with some projects and individual assignments. The text we'll be using is *Problem Solving Strategies: Crossing the River with Dogs* and covers topics such as drawing diagrams, eliminating possibilities, systematic lists, matrix logic, looking for a pattern, working backwards and venn diagrams. In addition to the book, we'll also cover some California standards that aren't necessarily taught in Sierra College classes (basic statistics and trigonometry).

For a more in-depth explanation of the course, read "Letter to the Student" on page 1 of your text.

Required Materials

- ✓ Pencils
- ✓ 3-ring binder w/paper
- ✓ 2 highlighters
- ✓ Colored pens/pencils

Assignments

Problem sets will be assigned every Tuesday and are due the following Tuesday.

Evaluation

Grading Scale	
A	90%-100%
B	80%-89%
C	70%-79%
D	60%-69%
F	Below 60%

Procedures & Expectations

Grades

I will be posting grades through Schoology.com. You may also come to me outside of class to find out your grade.

Expectations

1. **Prompt**

- Work is turned in on time. Work missed because of an excused absence may be submitted for credit after a period of time proportional to the length of absence.
- The students are in class on time.

2. **Prepared**

- All necessary materials (as well as an attitude to learn) are brought to class.
- Errands are taken care of before class.

3. **Neat**

- The classroom and desks are kept clean.

4. **Respectful**

- Students listen to others when they share in class.
- The property of others is respected.
- Students follow school rules and policies.

Now let's get to it! Here's your first problem to solve:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \overline{Q D X M C S D} \quad \overline{W C} \quad \overline{S P} \quad \cdot \quad \overline{X D R G N O C N} \quad \overline{O} \\
 \hline
 \overline{Z P C V X D S} \quad \overline{O C X R G N H} \quad \overline{M X F O O} \quad \overline{Q I C D R D P} \\
 \hline
 \overline{O C X R D O} \quad \overline{W I G O} \quad \overline{M P K Z W C H P F S} \quad \overline{B G P O W} \\
 \hline
 \overline{Q G N O} \quad \overline{S K} \quad \overline{P D O Z D M W} \quad \left(\overline{F N J} \quad \overline{F} \quad \overline{M F N J K} \right. \\
 \hline
 \left. \overline{V F P} \right) \cdot
 \end{array}$$

Once you have read the syllabus with your parents/guardians, please complete the "Syllabus Quiz" on Schoology.