

# Unit 4 - Polynomial Functions

Content Area: **Mathematics**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Marking Period 3**  
Length: **18 blocks**  
Status: **Published**

## Course Description & Instructional Notes

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### Course Description:

This course is designed to help students in grade 12 develop and strengthen basic mathematical skills, problem solving techniques and the application of such skills. The course is intended to further develop the mathematical skills necessary for the college entrance exam.

In this unit, students will build upon concepts taught in Algebra 1 that include classifying polynomials and solving radical equations. Students will apply the concept of factoring to simplify rational expression. An emphasis will be placed on essential academic vocabulary and college placement test skills.

**Prior Knowledge:** The following skills are a part of the Algebra 1 and Algebra 2 standards, they should be pre-assessed and remediated: Classifying Polynomials, Simplifying Radicals, Adding/Subtracting Fractions, Domain/Range

**Instructional Notes:** Students will need extended time with non-calculator skills. Daily warm-ups should emphasize the use of no calculator to solve problems.

**Graphing Calculator Integration:** Teacher will model the usage of the graphing calculator throughout the unit. Students will become comfortable with navigating and using the graphing calculator to solve a variety of problems efficiently (i.e. different ways to find the zeros, identifying key features of a quadratic function, solving quadratics, etc).

**Technology Integration:** Students will use Khan Academy as a supplemental resource.

## Enduring Understandings

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- The arithmetic of rational expression is governed by the same rules as the arithmetic of rational numbers.

- Algebraic representation can be used to generalize patterns and relationships.

## **Essential Questions**

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- How do we apply mathematical principles?
- How do operations affect numbers?

## **Student Learning Objectives**

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### **Definition of Polynomials**

- Classify polynomials by degree and number of terms.
- Express polynomials in standard form.
- Add, subtract and multiply polynomials.
- Factor polynomials

### **Rational Expressions & Equations**

- Simplify rational expressions
- Perform arithmetic operations with rational expressions

### **Radical Equations**

- Simplify expressions by applying the laws of the exponents
- Write expressions with rational exponents in radical form and vice versa.
- Simplify radical expressions
- Solve radical equations

## **Vocabulary & Learning Experiences**

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### **Essential Academic Vocabulary**

asymptotes, degree of polynomial, domain, excluded values, exponent, factors, irrational number, polynomial, points of discontinuity, radical, radical equation, range, rational exponent, rational expression, rational zeros,

### **Planned Learning Experiences**

Scavenger Hunts

## **Resources**

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Khan Academy (<https://www.khanacademy.org/math/algebra/rational-exponents-and-radicals>)

Math IXL

## **Assessments**

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### **Formative Assessments**

Quiz - Polynomials

Quiz - Rational Expressions

Quiz - Radical Equations

### **Summative Assessments**

Unit 4 Non-Calculator Assessment

Unit 4 Calculator Assessment

## **NJSLS Standards - Mathematics**

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*NJSLS Standards in Mathematics Copied and Pasted as well as linked.*

### **[NJSLS Standards - Mathematics](#)**

#### **Arithmetic with Polynomials and Rational Expressions A -APR**

A. Perform arithmetic operations on polynomials

1. Understand that polynomials form a system analogous to the integers, namely, they are closed under the operations of addition, subtraction, and multiplication; add, subtract, and multiply

polynomials.

B. Understand the relationship between zeros and factors of polynomials

3. Identify zeros of polynomials when suitable factorizations are available, and use the zeros to construct a rough graph of the function defined by the polynomial.

D. Rewrite rational expressions

7. (+) Understand that rational expressions form a system analogous to the rational numbers, closed under addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division by a nonzero rational expression; add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational expressions.

## **Reasoning with Equations and Inequalities A -REI**

A. Understand solving equations as a process of reasoning and explain the reasoning

2. Solve simple rational and radical equations in one variable, and give examples showing how extraneous solutions may arise.

## **Mathematical Practices**

**1 Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.** Mathematically proficient students start by explaining to themselves the meaning of a problem and looking for entry points to its solution. They analyze givens, constraints, relationships, and goals. They make conjectures about the form and meaning of the solution and plan a solution pathway rather than simply jumping into a solution attempt. They consider analogous problems, and try special cases and simpler forms of the original problem in order to gain insight into its solution. They monitor and evaluate their progress and change course if necessary. Older students might, depending on the context of the problem, transform algebraic expressions or change the viewing window on their graphing calculator to get the information they need. Mathematically proficient students can explain correspondences between equations, verbal descriptions, tables, and graphs or draw diagrams of important features and relationships, graph data, and search for regularity or trends. Younger students might rely on using concrete objects or pictures to help conceptualize and solve a problem. Mathematically proficient students check their answers to problems using a different method, and they continually ask themselves, “Does this make sense?” They can understand the approaches of others to solving complex problems and identify correspondences between different approaches.

**2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively.** Mathematically proficient students make sense of quantities and their relationships in problem situations. They bring two complementary abilities to bear on problems involving quantitative relationships: the ability to decontextualize—to abstract a given situation and represent it symbolically and manipulate the representing symbols as if they have a life of their own, without necessarily attending to their referents—and the ability to contextualize, to pause as needed during the manipulation process in order to probe into the referents for the symbols involved. Quantitative reasoning entails habits of creating a coherent representation of the problem at hand; considering the units involved; attending to the

meaning of quantities, not just how to compute them; and knowing and flexibly using different properties of operations and objects.

**3 Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.** Mathematically proficient students understand and use stated assumptions, definitions, and previously established results in constructing arguments. They make conjectures and build a logical progression of statements to explore the truth of their conjectures. They are able to analyze situations by breaking them into cases, and can recognize and use counterexamples. They justify their conclusions, communicate them to others, and respond to the arguments of others. They reason inductively about data, making plausible arguments that take into account New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Mathematics 4 the context from which the data arose. Mathematically proficient students are also able to compare the effectiveness of two plausible arguments, distinguish correct logic or reasoning from that which is flawed, and—if there is a flaw in an argument—explain what it is. Elementary students can construct arguments using concrete referents such as objects, drawings, diagrams, and actions. Such arguments can make sense and be correct, even though they are not generalized or made formal until later grades. Later, students learn to determine domains to which an argument applies. Students at all grades can listen or read the arguments of others, decide whether they make sense, and ask useful questions to clarify or improve the arguments.

**4 Model with mathematics.** Mathematically proficient students can apply the mathematics they know to solve problems arising in everyday life, society, and the workplace. In early grades, this might be as simple as writing an addition equation to describe a situation. In middle grades, a student might apply proportional reasoning to plan a school event or analyze a problem in the community. By high school, a student might use geometry to solve a design problem or use a function to describe how one quantity of interest depends on another. Mathematically proficient students who can apply what they know are comfortable making assumptions and approximations to simplify a complicated situation, realizing that these may need revision later. They are able to identify important quantities in a practical situation and map their relationships using such tools as diagrams, two-way tables, graphs, flowcharts and formulas. They can analyze those relationships mathematically to draw conclusions. They routinely interpret their mathematical results in the context of the situation and reflect on whether the results make sense, possibly improving the model if it has not served its purpose.

**5 Use appropriate tools strategically.** Mathematically proficient students consider the available tools when solving a mathematical problem. These tools might include pencil and paper, concrete models, a ruler, a protractor, a calculator, a spreadsheet, a computer algebra system, a statistical package, or dynamic geometry software. Proficient students are sufficiently familiar with tools appropriate for their grade or course to make sound decisions about when each of these tools might be helpful, recognizing both the insight to be gained and their limitations. For example, mathematically proficient high school students analyze graphs of functions and solutions generated using a graphing calculator. They detect possible errors by strategically using estimation and other mathematical knowledge. When making mathematical models, they know that technology can enable them to visualize the results of varying assumptions, explore consequences, and compare predictions with data. Mathematically proficient students at various grade levels are able to identify relevant external mathematical resources, such as digital content located on a website, and use them to pose or solve problems. They are able to use technological tools to explore and deepen their understanding of concepts.

**6 Attend to precision.** Mathematically proficient students try to communicate precisely to others. They try to

use clear definitions in discussion with others and in their own reasoning. They state the meaning of the symbols they choose, including using the equal sign consistently and appropriately. They are careful about specifying units of measure, and labeling axes to clarify the correspondence with quantities in a problem. They calculate accurately and efficiently, express numerical answers with a degree of precision appropriate for the problem context. In the elementary grades, students give carefully formulated explanations to each other. By the time they reach high school they have learned to examine claims and make explicit use of definitions.

MA.A-APR.A.1	Understand that polynomials form a system analogous to the integers, namely, they are closed under the operations of addition, subtraction, and multiplication; add, subtract, and multiply polynomials.
MA.A-APR.B.3	Identify zeros of polynomials when suitable factorizations are available, and use the zeros to construct a rough graph of the function defined by the polynomial.
MA.A-APR.D.7	Understand that rational expressions form a system analogous to the rational numbers, closed under addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division by a nonzero rational expression; add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational expressions.
MA.A-REI.A.2	Solve simple rational and radical equations in one variable, and give examples showing how extraneous solutions may arise.

## **Additional NJSL Standards**

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*NJSLS Standards Copied and Pasted as well as linked.*

### *Interdisciplinary Connections*

### [NJSL Companion Standards Grades 9-12 \(Reading & Writing in Science & Technical Subjects\)](#)

RST.11-12.3. Follow precisely a complex multistep procedure when carrying out experiments, taking measurements, or performing technical tasks; analyze the specific results based on explanations in the text.

### [Technology \(8.1 & 8.2\)](#)

**8.1 Educational Technology:** All students will use digital tools to access, manage, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to solve problems individually and collaborate and to create and communicate knowledge.

**A. Technology Operations and Concepts:** Students demonstrate a sound understanding of technology concepts, systems and operations.

**8.1.12.A.CS1** Understand and use technology systems.

**8.1.12.A.CS2** Select and use applications effectively and productively.

### [21st Century Life and Careers \(9.1 & 9.2\)](#)

**CRP2.** Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.

**CRP4.** Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.

**CRP8.** Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them

**9.3.ST.2** Use technology to acquire, manipulate, analyze and report data.

## **Modifications/Accommodations**

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