

MATH 90 Beginning Algebra FALL 2023

Section 1: T,Th 9:30 -10:45 Rm 201

INSTRUCTOR: Martin Lee

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OFFICE HOURS: TBA

Catalog Description:

MATH 90. Beginning Algebra. 3 cr Real numbers, solving linear equations, exponents, polynomials, rational expressions. Algebra for those with low placement test scores who need practice in fundamental math skills. Does not count toward a degree.

Text: Elementary and Intermediate Algebra 5ed., Tussy and Gustafson (available at campus bookstore)

CALCULATORS: You may use any four-function, scientific, or graphing calculator without a computer algebra system. **Cell phone calculators will not be allowed on exams and quizzes.** Please check with me if you have any questions about calculators. See the end of the syllabus for a list of prohibited calculators.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:

- All cellular phone, beepers, and electronic devices that could disrupt class should be in sleep mode or off while class is in session. Research supports that having visual access to a cell phone diminishes our ability to learn. Checking social media, texts, emails, and messages is unprofessional and disrespectful to our class community. Please turn off your phone during class; I will do so as well. If I notice that you are using your phone during class. I may ask you to share what you are researching or ask you to put it away. Thank you for following these guidelines as they help create a positive learning community.
- If you plan to attend class, be there at the beginning, be engaged and stay until the end.

COURSE OUTCOMES:

Students should understand and appreciate the following:

- Numbers and variables can be used to describe real life relationships.
- Laws and properties of algebra must be followed to maintain relationships between numbers and variables.
- Graphs provide a visual way to view and analyze relationships between variables.
- Problem solving skills allow us to approach real life problems, analyze how to solve them, and check our answers.
- Knowledge of exponents enables us to manipulate and solve polynomials.

GRADING POLICY: Your final letter grade will be based on the total points accumulated during the course. This will include exams (3-4 at 100 pts ea.) quizzes and homework and one cumulative final (pts tbd).

ATTENDANCE: Attending class will likely be the single most important factor in determining your performance and grade in the course, so plan to attend every class. The relationship between attendance and achievement in education has been extensively documented in peer-reviewed research. ***I am not able to re-teach the material to you in the event that you are absent, but the recorded lecture will be available on canvas after class if you are unable to attend.*** Additionally, you can ask a classmate to share notes.

GRADING SCALE: Grades will be assigned according to the scale below:

93%--100%	A	77%--79%	C+
90%--92%	A-	73%--76%	C
87%--89%	B+	70%--72%	C-
83%--86%	B	67%--69%	D+
80%--82%	B-	60% -- 66%	D
		59% or less	F

QUIZZES: There will typically be a quiz once a week. There will be **NO** make up quizzes. However the quiz with the lowest score will be dropped.

HOMEWORK: Homework will be given during each class and due the following day at the beginning of class no late homework will be accepted. Students not attending class will be required to submit their homework online by classtime.

EXAMS: There will be 3 exams during the course of the semester and a comprehensive final. Everyone will take the exam from home during the regularly-scheduled class time. The exam will be emailed to you at the start of class, and your completed exam must be returned to me by the end of class. Students who cannot take the exam during the regular class time must make alternate arrangements with me **BEFORE** the date of the exam. **Your final exam will be a comprehensive, two hour, multiple choice exam.**

ACCOMMODATION OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS: Any student who cannot be present for a scheduled exam due to a religious observance will be provided with an alternative way of fulfilling that course requirement, provided the student notifies me ahead of time.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT: Academic integrity and honesty are central to the mission of this institution. All cases of academic misconduct will be treated according to the procedures laid out in UWS 14. UWS 14 allows for disciplinary sanctions that range from an oral reprimand to suspension or expulsion from the University. You can obtain a copy of the academic misconduct policy through the Student Services office.

Prohibited Calculators: Not permitted are calculators with built in computer algebra systems, pocket organizers, *calculators built into cellular phones or other wireless communication devices*, handheld or laptop computers, electronic writing pads or pen-input devices (the Sharp EL 9600 is permitted), **calculators built into cellular phones or other wireless communication devices**, calculators with a typewriter keypad with keys in QWERTY format (calculators with letter keys not in QWERTY format are permitted), calculators with built-in computer algebra systems,

prohibited calculators in this category include: Casio: Algebra fx 2.0, ClassPad 300, and all model numbers that begin with CFX-9970G, Texas Instruments: All model numbers that begin with TI-89 or TI-92, and TI-Nspire CAS, Hewlett-Packard: hp 48GII and all model numbers that begin with hp 40G or hp 49G. Calculators which have been modified such as calculators with paper tape (remove the tape), calculators that make noise (turn off the sound feature), calculators that can communicate wirelessly with other calculators (completely cover the infrared data port with heavy opaque material, such as duct tape or electrician's tape (includes Hewlett-Packard HP-38G series and HP-48G)).

Please do not wait to get help if you are having trouble. The only way to learn mathematics is by doing it. **Be persistent, be positive and do not fall behind!**

Tentative schedule of chapters and sections;

Ch #1 sect. 1-9

Ch #2 sect. 1-6 with exam 1 after 2.4

Ch #3 sect. 1-3

Ch #5 sect. 1-8 with exam 2 after 5.8

Ch #6 sect. 1-4 6-7

Ch #10 sect. 2

Ch #7 sect. 1,2,&8 with exam 3 after 7.8