

MATH 002 SECTION P1
– INTRODUCTORY ALGEBRA –
FALL 2014

Meeting: 11-12:50pm, TR

Classroom: 170 Everitt Laboratory

Instructor: Ben Reiniger

Office: 110 Altgeld Hall

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Website: www.math.uiuc.edu/~reinige1/teachingF14

Office Hours: TBD

I can almost always accommodate additional office hours by appointment.

General Information: This class will teach basic algebra, important for understanding more involved mathematics. The material will include a review of arithmetic of real numbers; polynomials, factoring, and rational expressions; exponents and radicals; solving linear and quadratic equations; functions and their graphs.

Text: The required lecture notes may be purchased from the university bookstore. These notes are incomplete and you will fill them in during the class.

In addition, there will be handouts taken from a collection of free electronic resources.

Homework: Homework will be assigned for almost every class meeting. These will generally consist of two parts: part I will consist of problems concerning the material we have just covered, and part II will consist of a reading selection and warmup problems for the next section of material.

You are encouraged to work on homework in whatever groups you like. (I suggest meeting in groups of 3 or 4.) However, it is your responsibility to ensure that you understand the concepts and methods presented or reinforced by the homework; to that end, when you *write* your homework to be turned in, you should do so yourself. Quizzes and exams (and probably future math classes) will not allow calculators, so I recommend not using one on the homeworks either.

Grading: Grading is based on the following criteria:

- Content: correctness of the mathematical ideas.
- Style: the explanations of your work, where applicable.
- Completeness: a serious attempt was made at completing all assigned problems.
- Neatness: the presentation of your work. (Uncluttered computation, generous use of white-space, pages neatly stapled, etc.)

There will be many quizzes throughout the semester. We will have three exams during the semester as well as a final exam. The exam dates are expected to be September 23, October 23, and December 2; actual dates will be announced in class. Quizzes and exams will be taken without the aid of calculators, notes, or classmates.

Late homeworks will not be accepted, and quizzes will not be excused. Your two lowest homework grades and your two lowest quiz grades will be dropped to accommodate for illness or other unexpected disruptions. If you need to miss an exam, advance notice is greatly superior; if official documentation is provided, a conflict exam will be provided.

Assignments will be returned graded and commented. If you have any questions or concerns about the grade or comments, contact me within a week for clarification/regrade.

Your course grade will be obtained roughly as follows:

- Homework: 10%
- Quizzes: 20%
- Exam 1: 15%
- Exam 2: 15%
- Exam 3: 15%
- Final Exam: 25%

Note however that unexcused absence from the final examination results in an “ABS” grade for the course, which counts as a failure for GPA computations (§3-103 and §3-201b2 in the Student Code). The assignment of letter grades will be no more strict than the standard 10 point scale.

Access and Achievement Program This class is part of the university’s Access and Achievement Program. The AAP provides a variety of services, including free online tutoring services. Please see their website or drop by their office (112 English Building) for details.

Decorum: During our meetings you should be respectful of everyone’s time. Please silence cell phones. We meet over the lunch hour, so I don’t mind if you bring food, but do so in a way that is not distracting to others. Late arrivals and early departures are also disruptive.

Attendance Policy: You are expected to attend every class meeting. If you miss a meeting, you are responsible for catching up on the material. Math classes “snowball”: each class meeting will draw upon the information learned so far. So don’t get behind!

For University excused absences, contact me to determine appropriate accommodations. Remember that you are responsible for all information that you miss; find a friend who has the notes.

Disabilities: If you have a DRES letter, please make sure I get it within a week of the start of the semester (or your registration date, whichever is later). If you will be taking an exam outside of normal class hours, I need at least 5 business days’ notice to accommodate you.

Academic Integrity: Academic Integrity may be summed up by the phrase, “your work must be your own.” Violations will be processed according to the established guidelines. Please note that “it is the responsibility of the student to refrain from infractions of academic integrity, from conduct that may lead to suspicion of such infractions, and from conduct that aids others in such infractions” (§1-401 of the Student Code). Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, cheating, fabrication, or plagiarizing as outlined in §1-402 of the Student Code. A range of academic sanctions may be taken against a student who engages in academic dishonesty. Please see §1-401 through §1-406 of the Student Code for additional information and procedures.

Feedback: You will have several opportunities during the semester to provide feedback on this class. Please make use of these opportunities, and have thoughtful comments ready. You don’t need to wait for these opportunities; if you have suggestions/questions/comments, please let me know.

I look forward to working with all of you this semester. Good luck!