**Course Syllabus: Elementary Algebra**

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| **MATH 201-58571** | **Reedley College** |
| **Instructor:** Mr. Steven Zook  | **Fall 2016** |
| **Email:** steven.zook@reedleycollege.edu  | **Office Hours:** MW 10:00 am – 11:00 am |
| **Phone:** (559) 638-3641 ext. 3279 | Th 12:00 p – 1:00 pm |
| **Office:** FEM 4A |

**Meeting Room:** CCI 200

**Meeting Days:** MTWThF (Daily)

**Meeting Time:** 1:00 pm – 1:50 pm

**Course Description:** This is a first course in elementary algebra including: algebraic expressions, linear equations and inequalities, linear equations and inequalities in two variables, exponents and polynomials, factoring, and rational expressions.

**Course Prerequisites:** MATH 250 or equivalent

**Course Advisories:** MATH 256 and eligibility for ENGL 126

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| **Student Learning Outcomes:***Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:*  |
| 1. Apply real number operations to simplify and factor algebraic expressions.
2. Solve linear and quadratic equations.
3. Use graphic representation of an equation in two variables to solve appropriate problems.
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| **Objectives:***In the process of completing this course, students will:*  |
| 1. Recognize the real number system, its subsets and how to perform operations on numbers from these subsets.
2. Simplify algebraic expressions and solve linear equations and inequalities.
3. Graph linear equations in two variables and solve systems of linear equations.
4. Simplify expressions using the properties of exponents and perform operations with polynomials.
5. Factor algebraic expressions and solve equations of degree greater than one.
6. Perform arithmetic operations on rational expressions and solve equations containing rational expressions.
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**Required Text: George Woodbury, Elementary and Intermediate Algebra, Pearson Education, 4th Edition, 2015.**

This text is required for reading; however, you do not have to purchase a hard copy of the text since it is available online as an eText with the MyMathLab subscription.

**Required Course Material**:

You will be required to obtain access to **MyMathLab**. To access the course, use the **Course ID: zook12751**

You will need to first create an account here: [www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com](http://www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com)

When creating an account, **use your full first and last name as your name appears in official school records**, using usual capitalization rules.

**WARNING: Any students who do not gain *full paid* access to MyMathLab by 8/29/16 may be automatically dropped from the course.**

**Office Hours:** I will be holding regular office hours. I want to be available to you if you need assistance outside of class. Please visit me during the scheduled times for drop-in questions. You may come unannounced during those times. If the scheduled office hours do not suit your schedule, you may arrange a time to meet me in my office. Please don’t hesitate to take advantage of these since I want you to succeed – it’s what I am here for.

**Attendance:** As a student, you are expected to attend all classes for the entire period. Please be on time and ready to start when class is scheduled to begin. I ask this out of respect for your classmates and me. **Ten (10) absences** may result in a drop from the course. If you decide to drop, it is your responsibility to drop the class officially through the Administration and Records office. In failing to do so, you run the risk of receiving a **grade of F**.

**Classroom Behavior:** Please take care of any personal responsibilities and needs before entering the classroom. Please **TURN OFF** **your phones** when entering the class. They should **remain** **off for the duration** of the class period. If you use your phone in class, you may be asked to leave class. While you are in class, I expect you to participate and pay attention and you may not work on homework in class or prepare for a different class. You are allowed to use a **scientific calculator**, but not a graphing calculator for this class. Also, you may not use your phone as a calculator. If you use a phone during an exam, you will automatically receive a grade of F on the exam, even if you are using it as a calculator!

**Drop Deadline:** Friday, October 14th

**Assignments & Exams:**

All **online homework** assignments will be completed online at **MyMathLab**. Homework assignments will be due on the due date by **11:59pm** and will cover topics discussed during the previous week. If you submit your homework late, there is a **10% penalty for each day** that the assignment is late.

I will do my best to maintain the pace as laid out in the schedule below. That being said, depending on how quickly or slowly we progress through the material, I reserve the right to adjust homework due dates as needed. Any changes to due dates always will be announced in class.

Throughout the semester, you will earn points for **participation**. During the first three weeks of class, you must **visit me in my office** during office hours. You may come with questions about the material or simply to introduce yourself. If you visit me during the first two weeks, you will receive 10 participation points; if you do not, you will receive 0 points. For the rest of the semester, providing responses to questions and participating in activities will be how you earn positive participation points. Absences and tardiness will result in negative participation points. Every three weeks, I will post a participation grade (on a 0-10 scale) in the MyMathLab gradebook.

There will be regular **quizzes** that will be completed through the **MyMathLab Video Notebook**. To complete these quizzes, you will need to access the video notebook through MyMathLab and **neatly** complete the quiz on a separate piece of notebook paper.

I expect your quiz to be organized and written neatly. Please write your full name on all pages and multiple pages must be stapled together. Additionally, remove any loose edges along the perforation if the pages are out of a spiral notebook. Lastly, please clearly number the problems you complete.

There will be **six exams** during the course and the dates they will be held are in the course calendar and they will cover the specified content. There will be no make-up exams allowed although it will be possible to schedule a time to take an exam early if it is prearranged.

The **comprehensive final exam** will be held during finals week on **Wednesday, Dec 14, 1:00 pm – 2:50 pm**. If it is to your benefit, the cumulative final exam score will replace your lowest exam score.

**Assignment Categories and Weighting**

| ***Assignment*** | ***Weighting*** |
| --- | --- |
| Online Homework (MML) | 10% |
| Participation | 5% |
| Quizzes (from MML Video Notebook) | 10% |
| Exams (6 @10% each) | 60% |
| Final Exam (cumulative) | 15% |

**Final Grades**

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| --- | --- |
| ***Letter Grade*** | ***Percent*** |
| A | 90-100 |
| B | 80-89 |
| C | 70-79 |
| D | 60-69 |
| F | 0-59 |

**SPECIAL NEEDS REQUESTS:** If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.

**Please refer to the RC Catalog for the Policies on Academic Dishonesty, Cheating, and Plagiarism, pg. 44.**

**Course Outline and Schedule**

Week 1: Begin Chapter 1: Review of Real Numbers

Week 2: **Homework 1** due on Monday, Aug. 22

 Begin Chapter 2: Linear Equations

Week 3: **Homework 2** due on Monday, Aug. 29

Week 4**: Homework 3** due on Tuesday, Sept. 6

**EXAM 1 on Thursday, Sept. 8**

Begin Chapter 3: Graphing Linear Equations

Week 5: **Homework 4** due on Monday, Sept. 12

Week 6: **Homework 5** due on Monday, Sept. 19

Week 7: **Homework 6** due on Monday, Sept. 26

 **EXAM 2 on Thursday, Sept. 29**

 Begin Chapter 4: Systems of Equations

Week 8: **Homework 7** due on Monday, Oct. 3

Week 9: **Homework 8** due on Monday, Oct. 10

 **EXAM 3 on Wednesday, Oct. 12**

Begin Chapter 5: Polynomials

Last day to drop a full-term class Friday, Oct. 14

Week 10: **Homework 9** due on Monday, Oct. 17

Week 11: **Homework 10** due on Monday, Oct. 24

 **EXAM 4 on Thursday, Oct. 27**

 Begin Chapter 6: Factoring and Quadratic Equations

Week 12: **Homework 11** due on Monday, Oct. 31

Week 13: **Homework 12** due on Monday, Nov. 7

Week 14: **Homework 13** due on Monday, Nov. 14

 **EXAM 5 on Friday, Nov. 18**

 Begin Chapter 7: Rational Expressions and Equations

Week 15: **Homework 14** due on Monday, Nov. 21

Week 16: **Homework 15** due on Monday, Nov. 28

Week 17: **Homework 16** due on Monday, Dec 5

**EXAM 6 on Thursday, Dec 8**

Week 18: **Finals Week**

**Comprehensive FINAL EXAM on Wednesday, Dec 14 from 1:00 pm – 2:50 pm**

I will do my best to follow the schedule content-wise depending on how quickly we can cover the topics. However, the events in bold will take place on their specified dates.

If any changes are made, I will announce them in class and post them on Canvas.