

## BEGINNING ALGEBRA

### **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.

**PREREQUISITE:** Successful completion (grade of **C** or better) of Math 250 or eligibility as determined by the assessment process

**TEXT:** George Woodbury, Beginning & Intermediate Algebra, 2nd Edition

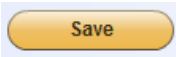
### **MATERIALS NEEDED:**

- ❑ 3-ring binder
- ❑ Binder Paper
- ❑ Pencil(s)
- ❑ Calculator
- ❑ **Access Code to Course Compass**
- ❑ Internet Connection: Cable/DSL, T1 or other high-speed connection. Dial-up will **greatly limit** the resources you will be able to access from the online courseware.

### **HOMEWORK:**

- Homework is assigned on a regular basis at [www.coursecompass.com](http://www.coursecompass.com) as well as in class. You may work ahead if you like; all homework for the entire chapter will be made available to the student approximately one week before the start of the chapter. ***It is important to stay current to be successful in the course!*** Each assignment has a due date. **Homework that is submitted late will be penalized by 20% of the points possible for each day it is late. All homework submitted more than 2 days late will receive a grade of zero.**
- Any written problems and exercises assigned in class must be worked out thoroughly, completely and neatly, otherwise the work will not receive full credit.

*Note:*

- *When working on homework, you do not have to complete an entire assignment during one session. If you need to stop while in the middle of an assignment, simply hit the  icon and the program will save your work. You can then come back to the assignment at another time and continue from where you left off.*
- ***Being absent on the day homework is due does not excuse you from the late submission penalty.***

**QUIZZES:**

There will be occasional in-class quizzes at the discretion of the instructor. These quizzes will be worth 20 points each and may be given **at any point during the class time**. There will be no makeup quizzes for students coming in late during a quiz nor for students absent on the day of a quiz.

**TESTS:**

- Seven (7) chapter tests, worth 100 points each, will be given.
- There are **NO MAKEUPS** for missed tests. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!**
- *If you absolutely must be absent on the day a test is scheduled, you may discuss with me the possibility of taking the test early.*

**FINAL EXAM:**

A two hour comprehensive final exam worth 100 points will be given at the end of the semester during final exams week. This final exam is ***mandatory and will count as a regular exam***. The final **may** be used to replace a low test score or a missed test. The final **may not** be used to replace the homework grade or quiz grade.

**GRADING:**

- **Homework** will represent 25% of the final course grade.
- **Quizzes** will represent 15% of the final course grade.
- The **seven chapter exams and the final exam** will represent 60% of the final course grade.

*Example:* If your homework average is 90, the average of your quizzes is 75 and the average of your chapter exams and final is 78, then you would compute your grade as follows:

$$(.25)(90) + (.15)(75) + (.60)(78) = 22.5 + 11.25 + 46.8 = 80.55$$

- Your grade will then be determined by the following **grading scale**:

<b>% Earned</b>	<b>Grade</b>
<b>90 – 100</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>80 – 89</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>67 – 79</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>55 – 66</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>0 – 54</b>	<b>F</b>

**Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty in any form is a very serious offense and will incur serious consequences, including but not limited to receiving a grade of F in the course. For the college policy on cheating and plagiarism, see the college catalog.

**Important Dates:**

- ***August 25, 2010 – Last day to add***
- ***September 6, 2010 – Labor Day Holiday***
- ***September 7, 2010 – Last day to file for Pass/No-Pass grading basis***
- ***September 15, 2010 – Last day to drop***
- ***FINAL EXAM DATE:***

<b>Friday, October 15, 2010: 10:00 – 11:50 (FEM-4)</b>
--

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Students will be able to:

- learn the real number system, its subsets and how to perform operations on numbers from these subsets.
- simplify algebraic expressions and solve linear equations and inequalities
- graph linear equations in two variables and solve systems of linear equations.
- simplify expressions using the properties of exponents and perform operations with polynomials.
- factor algebraic expressions and solve equations of degree greater than one.
- perform arithmetic operations on rational expressions and solve equations containing rational expressions.

**COURSE CONTENT OUTLINE**

**Chapter 1:** Review of Real Number

**Chapter 2:** Linear Equations

**Chapter 3:** Graphing Linear Equations

**Chapter 4:** Systems of Equations

**Chapter 5:** Exponents and Polynomials

**Chapter 6:** Factoring and Quadratic Equations

**Chapter 7:** Rational Expressions and Equations