

MATH 103, INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA (prerequisite is Math 201 [formerly Math 101] or equivalent), RC, MR. PAUL KRYDER (instructor) [no office at RC, home phone is 637-0051, email is paul.kryder@reedleycollege.edu]

WELCOME TO MATH 103. The objective of this course is for you to learn the fundamental concepts and techniques of intermediate algebra, including (but not necessarily limited to) equations (polynomial and absolute value), inequalities, systems of equations, functions, roots and radicals, exponential and logarithmic functions and equations, conic sections, [if time] sequences and series, and meaningful applications of much of the above.

FALL 2012 SPECIFIC INFORMATION: The class (52578) meets daily 7 - 7:50 am in FEM-4 [final exam is 12-14 (F), 7 - 8:50 am, Course Compass Course ID is kryder25983]. *When registering for Course Compass, please be SURE you enter your name EXACTLY the way it appears in the college's records—NO nicknames please !!*

Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, the student shall be able to: (1) solve linear and absolute value equations and inequalities in one variable, and express the solution set of an algebraic inequality in one variable in algebraic, graphical, and interval notation forms, (2) solve 2×2 and 3×3 systems of linear equations, (3) evaluate and simplify radical expressions, (4) use rational exponents, and simplify expressions involving rational exponents, (5) convert from radical form to exponential form and vice-versa, (6) perform basic operations on radical expressions (add, subtract, multiply, divide), (7) solve radical equations, (8) understand what a complex number is and know how to do basic operations (add, subtract, multiply, divide) with complex numbers, (9) solve quadratic equations by extracting square roots and completing the square, (10) solve quadratic equations by using the quadratic formula, (11) graph parabolas, (12) solve quadratic and rational inequalities, (13) understand what a function is, (14) graph polynomial functions by using knowledge of transformations and their effects on the graph, (15) do the algebra of functions and use function notation, (16) do compositions of functions, (17) find the inverse of a function given in roster form and in equation form, (18) determine whether two given functions, given in equation form, are inverses of each other by using the Property Of Composition Of Inverse Functions, (19) evaluate and graph exponential and logarithmic functions, (20) understand what a logarithm is, (23) convert from exponential to logarithmic form and vice-versa, (24) expand and condense logarithmic expressions by using the properties of logarithms, (25) solve exponential and logarithmic equations, (26) graph circles, ellipses, and hyperbolas from their equations, (27) convert the general form of the equation of a conic to standard form by completing the square, and identify whether it is a parabola, circle, ellipse, or hyperbola, (28) solve nonlinear systems of equations, (29) expand powers of binomials by using the Pascal's Triangle method, and (30) use many of the above skills to do meaningful applications (e.g. word exercises) requiring algebraic techniques.

Students with disabilities should see me privately for all special arrangements.

Textbook (not essential to bring to class): *Elementary and Intermediate Algebra*, 3rd edition, by Woodbury. You are NOT required to purchase the bundled version of the textbook as the My Math Lab assignments will be optional and extra credit, but you may do so if desired. My Math Lab access can also be purchased separately online with a credit card. We will cover chapters 8 - 13, plus section 14.4, generally in order. [Unit 1 = chapter 8, unit 2 = chapter 9, unit 3 = chapter 10 (except 10.6), unit 4 = chapter 11, unit 5 = chapter 12 (except 12.6), unit 6 = chapter 13 + 14.4 + (perhaps) 10.6]. There is an optional solution manual to the textbook.

Other required materials: To all classes, please bring sufficient paper for note-taking, a writing instrument, a scientific or graphing calculator (the TI 30X-IIS is the calculator of choice), graph paper, and a ruler. (If you use a mechanical pencil, please bring plenty of extra leads.) **PLEASE BE SELF-SUFFICIENT—IT IS INCREDIBLY ANNOYING AND DISTRACTIVE WHEN STUDENTS COME TO CLASS WITHOUT PROPER MATERIALS, AND THEN HAVE TO “BUM” FOR THEM FROM ME OR FROM OTHER STUDENTS!! BE RESPONSIBLE AND COME TO CLASS PREPARED.**

Exams, quizzes: Exams will be announced at least 1 week in advance. 6 unit exams plus 1 comprehensive final exam planned, with the final exam score recorded twice as 2 identical scores. Each exam score is a “maximum” 100 points. 1 new large blue book required for each exam—purchase in bookstore for a few cents. Quizzes will typically be short and unannounced ahead of time, and will be used to “enhance” exam scores. (I will no longer accept frayed-edge paper for quizzes, so be sure to bring at least a few sheets of 8.5” by 11” paper with smooth edges to each class to do your quizzes on.) **NO makeup quizzes EVER given; only persons present in class at the START of a quiz may take that quiz.**

Textbook homework and homework policies are given in the Textbook Homework List; homework points will also be used to “enhance” exam scores. Homework for each unit is due on the day you take the exam for that unit and will NOT be accepted late for ANY reason.

Online Homework: Online homework is optional via Course Compass. You may do either the online homework or the textbook homework or both; all are bonus points and it IS possible to get more points by doing both than by doing just one or the other. To register for Course Compass, go to www.coursecompass.com and register using the course ID (listed near the top of the 1st page of this syllabus) AND using the access code that comes with your textbook (or if you did not purchase the textbook with access code you may buy an access code online with a credit card). The advantage of online homework is that it is interactive and gives you instant feedback.

Early/Late Exams: Exams may NOT be taken early; the first time you miss an exam it must be your drop exam unless the miss is due to (1) a RC conflict, (2) military service, or (3) jury duty/court summons. (In any of these cases written documentation must be provided to enable you to take a makeup exam on the first missed exam.) On the 2nd missed exam and thereafter you may take a makeup exam with a reasonable excuse subject to verification at my discretion. **PLEASE TRY TO AVOID MISSING EXAMS—MAKEUP EXAMS ARE A NUISANCE AND INCREDIBLY TAXING ON ME!!**

Cheating on any exam or quiz will NOT be tolerated and will be dealt with according to the RC policy on cheating and plagiarism—see the RC catalog for details.

Semester grades: Semester grading scale is as follows: $F < 60\% \leq D < 68\% \leq C < 80\% \leq B < 91\% \leq A$. Your total number of points from all exams, except your lowest single exam score, will be calculated and compared to this scale to determine semester grade. *Once the semester is over, NO additional work may be done to raise your grade.*

Incompletes: Given only for the most extreme, serious, and unexpected (and well-documented) circumstances (e.g. automobile accident, serious illness, death in the immediate family) and will NOT be used merely to “bail you out” of getting a bad grade. If you do get my approval to take an incomplete, everything you have done up to the point of your leaving the class must count and may NOT be repeated.

Outside help: Available free of charge on a drop-in basis from RC instructors in the STEM Center in FEM 1 and in the Tutorial Center in the library from qualified student tutors. Please contact these centers for their hours and to find when they start up.

Expected: That you attend ALL classes ON TIME, with PROPER MATERIALS, and READY TO LEARN and BE ON-TASK. Also that you DO YOUR HOMEWORK ON TIME, and PROPERLY PREPARE FOR ALL EXAMS. Finally, that you GET OUTSIDE HELP IN A TIMELY MANNER IF YOU NEED IT.

Not allowed in class, ever: Rude or distracting behavior, abuse of others' property, babies or very young children, the use of cell phones or pagers or any kind of earphone device (e.g. MP3 players), or use of ANY kind of tobacco product (RC rule).

Blackboard use: Important announcements, class lecture notes, documents (e.g. practice exams, assignment sheets, content sheets), and student grades (to access grades, first click on “tools”) will be posted for this course on Blackboard (Bb), which is easily accessible for any enrolled RC student with a student ID # and internet access (to log into Bb, go to www.reedleycollege.edu, then click on Blackboard, then proceed, using your Reedley College ID as both your username and password). *(If you do not have a computer and/or a printer at home, that is no problem—numerous computer labs with internet access and printers exist on campus for your use; for example, in the library.)* Please check the class Bb site often for new announcements and documents.

Generic information (Fall 2012): The following information is not specific to this course and can be easily obtained by looking at the current RC Schedule Of Courses, yet for some reason the RC administration insists that instructors include it on their syllabi. So here it is:

No classes at RC on these dates: 09-03 (M), 11-12 (M), 11-22 (Th), 11-23 (F)

Last day to change a semester-length course to/from CR/NC grading basis: 09-14 (F)

Last day to drop a semester-length course for a refund of fees: 10-12 (F)

Last day to drop a semester-length course to avoid a “W” appearing on your transcript: 08-31 (F)

Last day to drop a semester-length course (letter grades assigned after this date): 10-12 (F).