

MATH 201 (formerly Math 101), ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA (prerequisite is Math 250 or equivalent), REEDLEY COLLEGE, MR. PAUL KRYDER (instructor) [no formal office at RC, home phone is 637-0051, email is paul.kryder@reedleycollege.edu]

WELCOME TO MATH 201. The objective of this course is for you to learn the fundamental concepts and techniques of elementary algebra, including (but not necessarily limited to) equations and inequalities, rules for exponents, polynomials, rational expressions, graphing linear equations, and meaningful applications of much of the above.

FALL 2012 SPECIFIC INFORMATION: The class (52560) meets daily 8 - 8:50 am in FEM-4 [final exam is 12-10 (M), 8 - 9:50 am, Course Compass Course ID is kryder38128]. *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) perform basic arithmetic operations with real numbers, including evaluating arithmetic expressions with multiple operations, (2) solve linear equations and inequalities in 1 variable, (3) graph linear equations in two variables, (4) find the equation of a line given certain facts about the line, (5) solve systems of 2 linear equations in 2 variables, (6) simplify one-term exponential expressions in 1 or more variables, using the rules for exponents, (7) use scientific notation, (8) perform operations (add, subtract, multiply, divide) on polynomials, (9) fully factor polynomials, (10) solve polynomial equations by factoring, (11) simplify rational expressions and compound fractions, (12) perform operations (add, subtract, multiply, divide) on rational expressions, (13) solve rational equations, and (14) use 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.

My "office" time: I have no formal office at RC since I am not a full-time instructor at RC.

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 1 - 7, generally in order. [Unit 1 = chapter 1, unit 2 = chapter 1, unit 3 = chapters 3 and 4, unit 4 = chapter 5, unit 5 = chapter 6, unit 6 = chapter 7]. 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 calculator (the TI 30X-IIS is the calculator of choice; no calculator required in unit 1), graph paper (unit 3 only), and a ruler (unit 3 only). *(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% ≤ D < 68% ≤ C < 80% ≤ B < 91% ≤ 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 (FEM-1), and from qualified student tutors in the RC Tutorial Center (in the library building). Please contact those 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 distractive 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, documents (e.g. practice exams, homework addendum sheets), and student grades (to access grades, first click on "Tools & Grades") 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 (go to www.reedleycollege.edu, then click on **Blackboard**, then proceed; use your student ID # as both your username and your 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, in room FEM-4E, and others.)* 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).