

MATH 256-Topics Before Algebra
Reedley College, Spring 2011
Schedule Number 51811

MWF 12:00-12:50pm, SOC 31
January 9 - May 16

Instructor: Becky Reimer
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Office Hours: FEM 1N, Mondays 1-3pm, Fridays 10am-12pm

Important

Dates: January 16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – no classes
February 17 Lincoln Day – no classes
February 20 Washington Day – no classes
March 9 Last Day to drop this class (Grades given after this date)
April 2 – 6 Spring Break – no classes
May 16 Final Exam

Textbook: Tom Carson, Prealgebra, Third Edition

Required

Materials: Sharpened pencils (preferably mechanical with extra lead)
Eraser
3-ring binder to hold textbook, notes, and assignments
Textbook
Large index cards (5" by 7")
(Calculators will not be allowed.)

Blackboard: A blackboard website will be maintained for this course.

<http://blackboard.reedleycollege.edu> The user name and password are both your student I.D. number

This syllabus, as well as all homework assignments, can be found on this website.

Attendance: You are expected to attend all class sessions, arrive on time, and stay for the entire session. If you are absent six (6) or more times by March 9, you will be dropped from the course.

Behavior: You will be expected to treat yourselves and others with respect and kindness. Please turn off cell phones and any other electronic devices before class begins.

Academic

Honesty: Academic integrity is essential to a successful college career. Cheating and plagiarism will result in disciplinary action ranging from a failing grade on an assignment or exam to failure of the course at the instructor's discretion. Please refer to the college catalog for more information on college policies regarding cheating and plagiarism.

Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
A. Use a number line to derive the rules for addition of positive and negative numbers.
B. Simplify and evaluate algebraic expressions
C. Differentiate between an expression and an equation.
D. Identify monomials, binomials, trinomials and polynomials.
E. Identify and combine like terms in simplifying polynomials

- F. Add, subtract and multiply polynomials
- G. Solve linear equations in one variable.
- H. Setup a table of solutions for linear equations and inequalities in two variables and graph those solutions

Course

Outline: This course will cover topics in chapters 2 – 6 of the text and chapter 9 if time allows.

Chapter 2: Integers

Chapter 3: Expressions and Polynomials

Chapter 4: Equations

Chapter 5: Fractions and Rational Expressions

Chapter 9: Geometry and Graphing

Homework: Homework will be assigned daily and will be due the following class session. Each assignment will be graded on completeness and accuracy. Homework will compose 25% of your final grade. Please write your name and section number in the upper right-hand corner of each homework page and staple multiple pages together in the upper left-hand corner. Show all work for full credit. **No late homework will be accepted for any reason, even if you were absent.** If you must be absent, you may turn homework in the day it is due in my office, FEM 1N, in the Math Center or you may turn it in at the RC switchboard in the administration building.

Class work: Homework quizzes will be given regularly. These assignments will be included in your homework grade and cannot be made up for any reason.

Exams: An exam will be given at the end of each chapter. Exact dates for exams will be announced approximately one week prior to the exam. You will be allowed to take a test early, but there are **no make-ups** for missed exams. Exams compose 65% of your final grade. Your lowest exam score will be dropped from your final grade.

Final Exam: There will be a comprehensive final exam worth 10% of your final grade. This exam cannot be dropped. The final exam is on Wednesday, May 16, 2012, from 12:00-1:50pm in SOC 31. Please plan accordingly.

Grading: Scores from homework, exams, and the final exam will be weighted as follows:

Homework 25%

Exams 65%

Final Exam 10%

Grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

90-100% A

80-89% B

70-79% C

60-69% D

0-59% F

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.