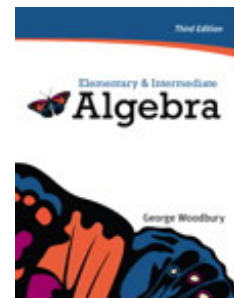# BEGINNING ALGEBRA

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, 3rd Edition $\Longrightarrow$

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ❑ **Two spiral gridpaper notebooks,Cambridge brand**
  in the bookstore. No other notebooks accepted!
- ❑ 3-ring binder
- ❑ Pencil(s)
- ❑ Scientific Calculator (No TI-89 or cellphones)
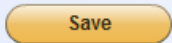- ❑ **Access Code to My Math Lab (Pearson)**

NOTE: Failure to be permanently enrolled in the course by January 25, 2013 may result in being dropped from the course!

HOMEWORK:

- Homework is assigned on a regular basis at www.mymathlab.com as well as in class. You may work ahead if you like. **It is important to stay current to be successful in the course!** Each assignment has a due date. That due date is *usually* the day after the material was covered in class. **Homework that is submitted late will be penalized by 25% of the points possible.**
- Any written problems and exercises assigned in class must be worked out thoroughly, completely, neatly, and **in pencil**. 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* Save *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.**

Homework Notebook: All homework problems are to worked out completely, with all work shown in one of the two **gridpaper spiral notebooks** listed in the materials list. These notebooks are to be used **exclusively** for this class. Each assignment and the problems of the assignment are to be clearly labeled and answers are to be boxed. The **Homework Notebook** will be collected on test day and will be worth **two homework** assignments. **I will not accept notebooks that do not follow these guidelines and I will not accept late notebooks.**

QUIZZES: There will be **weekly** in-class **homework quizzes**. These quizzes will be worth 20 points each and will be given either at the beginning or the end of class. Any students who are not in their seats when the quiz is handed out **will not** be allowed to take the quiz and will receive a grade of zero for that quiz. There will be no makeup quizzes for students coming in late or leaving class early or for students absent on the day of a quiz.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance is **not optional**. Students are expected to attend all class meetings, be on time, and be in class the entire class session. Leaving class early will be counted as a tardy and **two tardies can be counted as an absence**.   **Eight (8) absences** may result in a drop from the course. However, if you decide to drop the course, it is **your** responsibility to make the drop official in the Admissions and Records office or else possibly receive a grade of F.

EXAMS:
- Six (6) exams, worth 100 points each, will be given. The exams will usually cover one chapter of material. **Note:** Chapter 7 will be included in the Final Exam.
- There are **NO MAKEUPS** for missed exams. **NO EXCEPTIONS**!!
- *If you absolutely must be absent on the day an exam 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 during finals week. This final exam is **cumulative (Chapters 1-7), mandatory and will count as a regular exam.** The final **may** be used to replace a low exam score or a missed exam. The final **may not** be used to replace the homework grade or quiz grade.

GRADING:

- **Homework** (including homework notebooks!) will represent 20% of the final course grade.

- **Quizzes** will represent 20% of the final course grade.

- The **six exams and the final exam** will represent 60% of the final course grade.

  Example: If your homework average is 85, the average of your quizzes is 75 and the average of your exams and final is 78, then you would compute your grade as follows:

  (.20)(85) +(.20)(75)+(.60)(78)= 17+15+46.8 = 78.8

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

90% - 100% = A	**80% - 89% = B**	**67% - 79% = C**	**55% - 66% = D**	**0 % - 54% = F**

Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty <u>in any form</u> 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.

<u>Important Dates</u>:

- *January 25, 2013 – Last Day to Add*
- *January 21, 2013 – MLK Holiday*
- *January 28, 2013 – Last day to file for Pass/No-Pass grading basis*
- *February 15 - 18, 2013 – Presidents' Day Holiday*
- *March 8, 2013 – Last day to drop <u>in person [</u>March 10 is last day to drop <u>on WebAdvisor</u>*
- *March 25 – 29, 2013 – Spring Break*
- *FINAL EXAM DATE:*

Wednesday, May 15, 2013, 8:00 -9:50 (CCI-206)

<u>COURSE OBJECTIVES:</u>

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.

<u>COURSE CONTENT OUTLINE</u>
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

NOTE: If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media per the Americans with Disabilities Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.