**Math 256 – 52928: Algebra Topics** **REEDLEY COLLEGE**

**Mrs. Francilyn O’Brien** Spring 2014

**e-mail:** [**francilyn.obrien@reedleycollege.edu**](mailto:francilyn.obrien@reedleycollege.edu) **Meeting Room:** CCI 201

**Meeting Times:** TTH, 1:00-2:15

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is an introduction to some of the topics covered in Beginning Algebra. It will cover key concepts, principles and problem solving applications of the following topics: integers, expressions and polynomials, equations, some basic topics in geometry, and graphing linear equations. The course aims to strengthen students’ skills to become more confident and ready for Math 101.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**: **PreAlgebra (4th ed) by Tom Carson**

**MyMathLab Course ID: Obrien16294**

**REQUIRED MATERIALS**: Notebook, 94pencils, ¼” graph paper, eraser, ruler

**ATTENDANCE:** Students are expected to attend all class meetings, be on time, and be in class the ***entire*** class session. **STUDENTS LEAVING CLASS BEFORE THE END OF CLASS WILL BE COUNTED AS BEING ABSENT! Three (3) 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 Administrations and Records office or possibly receive a grade of F.***

**Behavioral Standards:** Personal needs (i.e., using the restroom, getting a drink, sharpening a pencil) must be taken care of before class begins. Please turn your phone off when entering the class. You may not use your phone as a calculator. Do not bring guests to class. Loud, not subject-related conversations

are not allowed during class.

As a part-time instructor for Reedley College, I do not have an office and office hours.

If you have any important message, please email me before class.

**TARDINESS:** Students are expected to be on time. It is distracting, rude and unfair to fellow classmates and to the instructor when a student is late. If you come in late, please see me before leaving or will be counted as absent.

**ASSIGNMENTS/TESTS:**

1. Homework will be done on MyMathLab with three retakes. Your average scores will be considered. However, you need to show all your work on your notebook so you can always refer to them to review the processes.
2. Chapter tests can be taken online up to two retakes and the average score will be considered. Cumulative chapter tests will be taken in class.

**MID-Term and FINAL EXAM:** A midterm and comprehensive final exam will be given in the middle and at the end of the semester, respectively.

Students are required to participate in all class discussions and activities. This is combined with the Homework grade.

**GRADING:** 1)Weights: MyMathLab Assignments & class participation-- 25%; Chapter Tests—35%;

Mid Term Exam & Final Exam—40%

2) Grading Scale: A 90% - 100%, B 80% - 89%; C 70% - 79%, D 60% - 69%

F 0% - 59%

**SPECIAL NEEDS REQUESTS:** 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.

***Academic Dishonesty***

*Students at Reedley College are entitled to the best education that the college can make available to them, and they, their instructors, and their fellow students share the responsibility to ensure that this education is honestly attained. Because cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities erode the integrity of the college, each student is expected to exert an entirely honest effort in all academic endeavors. Academic dishonesty in any form is a very serious offense and will incur serious consequences.*

***Cheating*** is the act or attempted act of taking an examination or performing an assigned, evaluated task in a fraudulent or deceptive manner, such as having improper access to answers, an attempt to gain an unearned academic advantage. Cheating may include, but is not limited to, copying from another’s work, supplying notes or devices inappropriate to the conditions of the examination, allowing someone other than the officially enrolled student to represent the student, or failing to disclose research results completely.

***Plagiarism*** is a specific form of cheating: the use of another’s words or ideas without identifying them as such or giving credit to the source. Plagiarism may include, but is not limited to, failing to provide complete citations and references of all work that draws on the ideas, words, or work of others, failing to identify the contributors to work done in collaboration, submitting duplicate work to be evaluated in different courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors involved, or failing to observe computer security systems and software copyrights.

Incidents of cheating and plagiarism may result in any of a variety of sanctions and penalties, which may range from a failing grade on a particular examination, paper, project, or assignment in question to a failing grade in the course, at the discretion of the instructor and depending on the severity and frequency of the incidents.

**COURSE OUTLINE AND OBJECTIVES**

**Math 256: Pre Algebra Course Outline Instructor: F. O’Brien**

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| **TOPIC** | **OBJECTIVES**  **Students are able to:** |
| 1. Integers   (Chapter 2) | * Identify integers; Interpret number lines and graphs with integers; Find the absolute value and additive inverse of a given number; Apply the four operations on integers; Apply the order of operations in evaluating/simplifying integers; Solve application problems involving integers |
| 1. Expressions & Polynomials   (Chapter 3) | * Translate, simplify and evaluate expressions; Add, subtract, & multiply polynomials; Name the type of polynomial according to number of terms and according to its degree; Determine if a number is prime or composite; Determine the prime factorization of a number; Find the GCF of a number; Solve application problems involving polynomials; Divide monomials; Divide a polynomials by a monomial; Find an unknown factor; Factor the GCF out of a polynomial. |
| 1. Equations (Chapter 4) | * Differentiate between an expression and an equation; Check if a number is a solutions for an equation; Determine whether a given equation is linear; Solve equations by applying the properties of equality; Translate word sentences to equations; Apply critical thinking and problem solving strategies in solving real-life problems/applications. |
| 1. Fractions (Chapter 5) | * Multiply & divide fractions |
| 1. More with Geometry and Graphs (Chap 9) | * Identify points, lines, line segments, planes and parallel lines; Identify angles; Solve problems involving angles formed by intersecting lines and angles in a triangle; Determine the coordinates of a given point; Identify the quadrant where a point lies; Plot points in the coordinate plane; Find the midpoint of two points in the coordinate plane; Determine that a point/ordered pair is a solution for a given equation with two unknowns; Find three solutions for an equation in two unknowns; Graph linear equations; Find the x- and y- intercepts; Solve problems involving linear equations in two variables using equations and graphs; Find the centroid of a figure given the coordinates of its vertices; Find the area of a figure given the coordinates of its vertices. |