

Math 201: Elementary Algebra

Syllabus and Course Outline for Fall 2015

Class Information

Section: 56034
 Day: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday
 Time: 1:00-1:50pm
 Building: Classroom Complex I
 Room: 200

Office Hours

Monday: 9:00-10:00am
 Tuesday: 10:00-11:00am
 Wednesday: 11:00-12:00am
 Thursday: 12:00-1:00pm
 Friday: 2:00-3:00pm
 Room: Forestry, Engineering, & Math 1N

About Your Instructor

Name: Ryan Lowenstein
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Textbook Required

Elementary and Intermediate Algebra
 Author: George Woodbury
 Edition: 3
 ISBN: 978-0-321-66548-5

Textbook Note

Homework Assignments will come directly from this textbook **and** from MyMathLab, an online account synced with Blackboard. Both the hardcover and MyMathLab are included in the bookstore price of \$122.70. **All** homework assignments will be posted on Blackboard.

Estimated Schedule:

Week	Month	Day	Section(s) Covered	Course Topic
1	August	17	Syllabus	Number Systems and
		18	1.1	Operations
		19	1.2	
		20	1.3	
		21	1.4	
2		24	1.5	
		25	1.7	
		26	1.8	
		27	2.1	Linear Equations and
		28	2.2	Inequalities
3	September	31	2.3	
		1	2.4	
		2	Review for Test 1	
		3	Test 1	
		4	2.5; Last day to drop without receiving a "W"	
4		7	Labor Day (No Class)	
		8	3.1	Graphing and Linear
		9	3.2	Systems
		10	3.3	
		11	3.4	

5	September	14	3.5	
		15	3.6	
		16	3.6 continued	
		17	3.7	
		18	3.7 continued	
6		21	Review for Test 2	
		22	Test 2	
		23	4.1	
		24	4.1 continued	
		25	4.2	
7		28	4.3	
		29	4.3 continued	
		30	4.4	
	October	1	4.4 continued	
		2	4.5	
8		5	5.1	Exponents and
		6	5.1 continued	Polynomials
		7	Review for Test 3	
		8	Test 3	
		9	Review for Midterm; Last day to drop	
9		12	Review for Midterm	
		13	Midterm	
		14	5.2	
		15	5.2 continued	
		16	5.3	
10		19	5.4	
		20	5.5	
		21	5.5 continued	
		22	6.1	Factoring
		23	6.1 continued	
11		26	6.2	
		27	6.3	
		28	6.4	
		29	Review for Test 4	
		30	Test 4	
12	November	2	6.5	
		3	6.6	
		4	6.6 continued	
		5	6.7	
		6	6.8	
13		9	6.8 continued	
		10	7.1	Rational Expressions
		11	Veterans Day (No Class)	
		12	7.1 continued	
		13	7.2	
14		16	7.3	
		17	Review for Test 5	
		18	Test 5	

14	November	19	7.4	
		20	7.4 continued	
15		23	7.5	
		24	7.6	
		25	7.6 continued	
		26	Thanksgiving Day (No Class)	
		27	Thanksgiving Break (No Class)	
16		30	7.7	
	December	1	7.7 continued	
		2	8.1	A Transition to
		3	8.2	Intermediate Algebra
		4	8.2 continued	
17		7	Review for Test 6	
		8	Test 6	
		9	Review for Final Exam	
		10	Review for Final Exam	
		11	Review for Final Exam	
18		TBA	Final Exam	

Catalog 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.

Grade Breakdown

Category	Weight of Overall Grade
Tests	70%
Homework	20%
Participation	10%

Grading Scale

Minimum Percent Required	Grade
93	A
83	B
73	C
63	D

Grades will be updated regularly on Blackboard

Test Dates

Test	Sections	Date	Weight of Overall Grade
1	1.1-2.4	Thursday, September 3	7%
2	2.5-3.7	Tuesday, September 22	7%
3	3.8-5.1	Thursday, October 8	7%
Midterm	1.1-5.1	Tuesday, October 13	12%
4	5.2-6.4	Friday, October 30	7%
5	6.5-7.3	Wednesday, November 18	7%
6	7.4-8.2	Tuesday, December 8	7%
Final	1.1-8.2	To Be Announced	16%

Test Materials

Approved	Unapproved
Pencil	Textbook
Eraser	Notes
Four-function Calculator	Scientific Calculator
Ruler	Cellphone
Pen	Anything Else

Formula sheets and scratch paper will be provided

Types of Test Questions

Difficulty	Brief Description	Prevalence
Basic	Easier Question from Course	30% of Test
Proficient	Harder Question from Course	60% of Test
Advanced	Question Never Seen Before	10% of Test

Any concept discussed during class or assigned in homework **will** be on the test in some way

Miscellaneous Test Information

Only **one** person may leave the room at a time

Each Question is Worth	12 Points
Work Leading to Correct Answer	11 Points
Correct Answer	1 Point

There is a 50 minute time limit

Classwork

Typical assignments include clicker questions, group work, and other activities. About 90% of these assignments must be completed in order for a student to earn full participation and attendance for the day. Students who come to a class and complete less than 90% of the classwork will earn no more than half of the day's participation and attendance. Students who miss more than five classes will automatically be dropped from the class.

Homework

On a twice a week basis, questions are usually assigned online (MyMathLab), which are graded on the correct answer, and sometimes assigned from the textbook (handwritten), which are graded on the correct steps. To offer encouragement, if a student is stuck on an online problem, he or she should turn in his or her handwritten work to the instructor. Also, students should resubmit any questions marked as incorrect from returned handwritten assignments (see Flexibility Pass).

Behavior

Expected	Unwelcome
Asking Questions	Talking over the Instructor
Taking Notes	Texting or on the Phone
Helping Others	Checking Facebook or Email
Participating	Sleeping
Positive Attitude	Doing Homework
Punctual Attendance	Packing up Early

The instructor has the right to remove students from the classroom at any time

Late Work Policy

Late work is never accepted for handwritten homework assignments, unless it is turned in with a flexibility pass (see below). MyMathLab homework assignments may be completed after the deadline for a 10% reduction in overall score.

Make-Up Test Policy

Students who miss a test are **never** guaranteed a make-up. Make-up tests are only administered to students in extenuating circumstances and must be scheduled as far in advance as possible. Students may replace their lowest test score with the grade they earn on the final exam only if they complete all homework from the semester with the exception of four missing assignments or less.

Flexibility Pass

Students will be given four opportunities in the form of passes to turn in late homework. Also, half of each pass can be used to redo already graded homework assignments or to write out MyMathLab assignments and have them graded by hand. However, it is recommended that students mainly use these passes for emergencies because no additional passes will be handed-out later in the semester.

Tutoring

Both Reedley College's Tutorial Center (Library Building, Room LRC 111) and STEM Math Study Center (Forestry, Engineering, & Math, Room 1) offer free tutoring for both students who need help with the concepts presented in this class (recommended when one's grade falls below 83%) and students who have trouble meeting deadlines.

Examples of Cheating

Tests	Classwork and Homework
Using a forbidden test material	Copying another person's assignment
Looking away from one's paper	Looking at the solutions (manual or online)
Talking to another person	Having another person do the assignment for you

Cheating violates Reedley College's Academic Integrity; zero credit will be earned for cheated assignments

Universal Design

This class will try its best to incorporate the special needs of English Learners, students with disabilities, and everyone else. If one feels that his or her needs are not being met, please bring this to the instructor's attention so a solution can be found.

Students with Disabilities Policy

In compliance with ADA guidelines, students who have any condition, either permanent or temporary, that might affect their ability to perform in this class are encouraged to inform the instructor at the beginning of the term. Use of accommodations can start when the instructor receives the Notification of Authorized Services form with the accommodations listed. The granting of any accommodation will not be retroactive and cannot jeopardize the academic standards or integrity of the course.

Equity and Diversity

Reedley College is committed to ensuring equality and valuing diversity. Students and instructors are reminded to show respect at all times.

Course Outcomes

At the end of the course, students should be able to relate and apply algebraic concepts in their everyday lives. More specifically, they should be able to apply real number operations to simplify and factor algebraic expressions, solve linear and quadratic equations, and use graphic representation of an equation in two variables to solve appropriate problems. These strategies are frequently used in real life situations in which an unknown quantity exists.

Course Objectives

In the process of completing this course, students will:

1. Recognize the real number system, its subsets and how to perform operations on numbers from these subsets
2. Simplify algebraic expressions and solve linear equations and inequalities
3. Graph linear equations in two variables and solve systems of linear equations
4. Simplify expressions using the properties of exponents and perform operations with polynomials
5. Factor algebraic expressions and solve equations of degree greater than one
6. Perform arithmetic operations on rational expressions and solve equations containing rational expressions

Personal Statement

The instructor of this course understands that the subject of mathematics is difficult and carries a negative preconception among many students. Hence, he values a conceptual understanding of the content and wants to help students succeed in his class, as long as they are willing to do their share of the work.

Disclaimer

The information in this syllabus is subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances

Flexibility Pass

Name _____

Name _____

Date _____

Date _____

Assignment _____

Assignment _____

Flexibility Pass

Name _____

Name _____

Date _____

Date _____

Assignment _____

Assignment _____

Flexibility Pass

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