

BEGINNING ALGEBRA

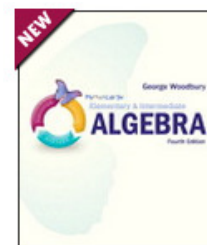
COURSE DESCRIPTION:

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, 4th Edition

*Note: You do not need to buy the book, but you **must** buy the Access Code.*



MATERIALS NEEDED:

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



HOMEWORK:

- **HOMEWORK:** Homework assignments are completed online and the assignments can be found at the *My Math Lab* website, www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com. You may work ahead if you like; all homework for the entire chapter will be made available to the student approximately three days before the start of the chapter. ***It is important to stay current to be successful in the course!*** Each assignment has a due date and time. Late homework will lose 25% of the points possible ***for every day it is late.*** Online homework will account for 20% of your grade.
- **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, 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.**

Math Center Requirement: A part of your homework grade will be a mandatory one hour in the Math Center (FEM-1). This will be worth 10 points per week. You will need to log in to and out of the math center and I will receive a weekly report showing your attendance in the center.

Homework Notebook: All online homework problems are to be 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.**

- Students who do not sign up at www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com and complete the first three assignments (Orientation Assignment and Sections 1.1 and 1.2) by **Friday, January 15, 2016** will be dropped. My Math Lab will allow you to enroll on their site with a *temporary access* without buying the access code.
- Any student who enrolls with a *temporary access code* will be **required** to have purchased the access code and be permanently enrolled in the My Math Lab course by **January 22, 2016**. Failure to do so will result in a **drop from the course!**

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. Students leaving class early on the day a quiz is given will receive a grade of zero for that 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**. **Five (5) 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.

Attendance Grade: Since attendance is not optional, it will be counted as part of your homework grade. You will receive seven attendance grades throughout the semester (One for each chapter) each one worth 10 points. Each absence will cost you two of those points and each tardy reduces your score by 1 one point.

EXAMS:

- Seven (7) exams, worth 100 points each, will be given. Each exam will usually cover one chapter of material.
- 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 exam 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, quiz grade or attendance grade.

Personal and Technology Emergencies

I am well aware that sometimes emergencies arise both in your personal life and with the technology that you may be using. To account for these unexpected events, I have made the following allowances:

- The lowest two **homework grades** will be dropped.
- The lowest **two quiz grades** will be dropped.
- The final exam counts as the fourth exam and **may** replace the lowest exam (or a zero score if you miss an exam) if the final exam score is higher.

GRADING:

- **Homework** (this includes homework notebooks, attendance and Math Center hours!) will represent 20% of the final course grade.
- **Quizzes** will represent 20% of the final course grade.
- The **seven 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 70, and the average of your exams and final is 78, then you would compute your grade as follows:

$$(.20)(85) + (.20)(70) + (.60)(78) = 17 + 14 + 46.8 = 77.8$$

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

89.5% - 100% = A	79.5% - 89.4% = B	66.5% - 79.4% = C	54.5% - 66.4% = D	0% - 54.4% = F
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Academic Dishonesty: Reedley College rules on plagiarism will be strictly enforced. Academic dishonesty in any form is a very serious offense and will incur serious consequences, including but not limited to receiving a grade of F in the course. **The student receiving the grade on their transcript needs to be the person doing the work at ALL times in this class.** If not, the student will receive an automatic F in the course, and suffer the utmost consequences of plagiarism as set forth by the college's academic regulations.

<i>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.</i>

Important Deadlines:

Jan. 15, 2016	Deadline to be enrolled in My Math Lab
Jan. 18, 2016	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday – No classes
Jan. 22, 2016	Deadline to be PERMANENTLY enrolled in My Math Lab
Jan. 29, 2016	Last day to add this class with Admissions and Records
Feb. 5, 2016	Last day to file for P/NP grading basis
Feb. 12 & 15, 2016	President's Day Holiday – No classes
Mar. 11, 2016	Last day to drop (receive a W)
Mar. 21 – 25, 2016	Spring Recess – No classes
May 8, 2016	FINAL EXAM: 9:00 – 10:50, CCI-201

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

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.

COURSE CONTENT OUTLINE

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