

Reedley College – FALL 2018 - Course Syllabus

Math 201, Elementary Algebra, Section #55144

Welcome To Math 201! Looking forward to having you in class!

Instructor: Ms. Lina Obeid **Class Time:** T/TH; 1:00 pm to 3:15 pm **Class Location:** CCI200 **Office:** FEM 4A
Phone: 638-0300, ext. 3184 **E-Mail:** lina.obeid@reedleycollege.edu
Office Hours: M to TH at 10am **Virtual office hour:** T at 12pm

Basic Skills Advisories: Eligibility for English 126 **Subject Prerequisites:** Successful completion (C OR BETTER) of Math 201 or equivalent. *Students may not be as successful or may drop from the class if they have not fulfilled the pre-requisites before enrolling.*

Optional Text: Woodbury, G. (2015). *Elementary & Intermediate Algebra*, 4th edition. Boston: Pearson (**e-book required**)

Required Materials:

To succeed, it is important to have the needed materials. Please make sure to get them as soon as possible.

- **Online access code:** This course **requires** students to purchase www.mathxl.com access code (includes e-book and homework). This access code may be purchased at the bookstore or online at www.mathxl.com, also called “mymathlab” or “mathxl”. This site gives you access to the homework assignments, e-book, and other resources. *Assignments and grades are posted on www.mathxl.com site and NOT on Canvas. The syllabus and other documents are posted on Canvas.*
- **Temporary access code:** The www.mathxl.com site offers students a *temporary* access code which allows students to sign up and work for a few days without paying. The deadline for that grace period is posted on the login page every time a student logs in to www.mathxl.com. The publisher will deny access to students who do not pay by the grace period’s deadline. It is the student’s responsibility to pay to ensure access to their assignments. Class policy requires students to pay for a permanent access code before the deadline, preferably the first week of school. (Please note that financial reasons or procrastination is not an excuse to missing assignments, exams, or tests.)
- **Required technology:** This class might require students to access and/or to print materials from www.mathxl.com or Canvas. This class requires access to a computer with a high-speed connection. Your browser (i.e. Google Chrome, firefox, etc.) must have specific plug-ins. Avoid using Internet Explorer. “Always” allow cookies and allow pop-ups to avoid issues. *Students need to make sure they have access to the proper technology. Most labs on campus as well as the Math Center have the proper technology. If you are having issues accessing the site at home, then immediately come to the MATH CENTER in FEM1 to get help and complete the work.* (Please note that technology problems are not an excuse to missing assignments.)
- **Additional required materials:** Students need to come to class ready with 2 Cambridge spiral graph notebooks for homework and notes, yellow highlighter, ruler, sharpened pencils, eraser, scantrons, and a scientific **TI calculator (NON-graphing); Check with the instructor for the use of other calculators.**

Attendance and Tardy Policy:

Please make your education a priority. To succeed and to help us help you, please attend and participate on daily basis.

- Students who miss the first day of class may be dropped as a “No Show”.
- Attendance is not optional. Emailing or calling does not excuse an absence or tardy. Students are expected to attend every class, arrive on time, and stay for the entire class period. **Late work is not accepted.**
- If a student arrives late, it is his/her responsibility to inform the instructor after class, so the absence can be changed to a tardy. Two tardies or two partially missed lectures count as an absence.
- **Students are expected to take notes in class in notebooks used exclusively for this class. Notes are to be used upon request.**
- A student who is absent or late is responsible to get him/herself updated on the missed materials. The student will need to ask a fellow student for a copy of the notes, the missed assignments or information. Students can use the math/tutorial center available at Reedley College if they need help understanding the missed material.
- A student *may** be dropped by the instructor after 10 absences (not necessarily consecutive class periods) or if the student does not sign up and work on MYMATHLAB in a timely manner. If a student decides to no longer be enrolled in the class, it is then the student’s responsibility to drop in a timely manner to avoid receiving a “W” or an “F”, following the Reedley College course schedule or catalog’s deadlines.

Behavioral, Campus, and Academic Policy:

To foster a good and safe classroom environment, it is important that students adhere to class and college policies.

- Reedley College campus policies and academic regulations will be implemented in this class.
- By enrolling in this class, the student agrees to adhere to any and all class policies, rules, regulations and guidelines and to Reedley College campus’ policies and academic regulations.
- Students not following directions or engaging in behavior the instructor deems disruptive may be asked to leave or may be removed for the remainder of that class. Food or drink (except bottled water) is **not** allowed in the classroom as per college rules.

- Teacher reserves the right to assign seats.
- Students must act and communicate professionally in class and online/in emails.
- This class has an electronic device use policy:
 - 1) The use of electronic devices in the classroom is prohibited. Electronic devices including but not limited to cell-phones, recording devices, CD/DVD/MP3 players are prohibited in the classroom. Such devices must be turned off, silenced, and put away before entering the classroom. Headphones are not allowed. Students are not allowed to use or operate a recording device at any time in this classroom. Students with disabilities must make arrangements ahead of time for the approved use of a device.
 - 2) The use of cell phones in the classroom is prohibited and is considered disruptive behavior. Phones need to be silent, out of reach, and out of sight. Students are not allowed to place their cell phones on the desks or in plain view at any time during class, even if set to “silent” or “off”. Texting in class is prohibited. Students using a cell phone during an exam are considered to be cheating.
 - 3) Students must make the instructor aware of any electronic device they are using in class, otherwise they are in violation of the policies of this class.

- **Grading Policy:**

Students are graded in three major categories according to the following:

Homework grades constitute **25%** of the student’s overall grade.

Quiz grades constitute **5%** of the student’s overall grade.

Chapter and Final exams grades constitute **70%** of the student’s overall grade.

Grades are posted and updated on www.mathxl.com site. It is the student’s responsibility to put in the effort needed to get the desired grade. A student struggling to get a desired grade must get tutoring. Free tutoring is available at Reedley College.

➤ **Homework:** This category includes homework grades.

Your success is very important, so please spend the time and effort needed to do well on your homework.

- **HOMEWORK ONLINE:** Homework is assigned on regular basis at www.mathxl.com. It is to be completed online at pearsonmylabandmastering.com. Students will be given several tries on each question to get the question right. Homework deadlines must be observed. Late work affects the grades negatively: It loses 30% of the points possible for every day it is late. Each assignment has a due date and the assignment might not be available to the student after the due date.
- **HOMEWORK NOTEBOOKS:** In addition to entering answers online, homework exercises must be worked out in pencil step-by-step, thoroughly, completely and neatly. This is a good habit intended to help you study for the exams. Box or highlight answers. **Write the section numbers at the top of each page.** Graphs need to be drawn on graph paper, labeled, titled, and scaled accurately and neatly using a ruler.
- **EMERGENCIES:** Personal, financial, professional, or technological problems cannot be used as excuses to get extensions or retakes on homework. **The lowest homework assignment score will be dropped to account for such emergency or issue.**

➤ **Quizzes:** This category includes quiz grades.

To succeed, attend regularly and take good notes

- Quizzes might be assigned to be completed in class or at home. In-class quizzes might be pop quizzes (unscheduled).

➤ **Chapter Exams:** This category includes around five chapter exams administered throughout the semester.

To succeed, study as much as needed to earn a better grade.

- Chapter exams are weighted equally. Students are not allowed to leave and return to an exam once started.
- Exam questions must be answered step-by-step, thoroughly, completely, and neatly to receive full credit. Final answers must be highlighted or boxed. Graphs need to be drawn, labeled, titled, and scaled accurately and neatly using a ruler.
- Students who are not present will receive a score of zero on that chapter exam. No make-up or retake exam will be given for any reason. **Students are not allowed to take the exam after the scheduled time for any reason.**
- **EMERGENCIES:** In case a student has a known unavoidable business on the scheduled exam date or time, he/she will be given the chance to take the chapter exam **before the scheduled date/time if and only if** the student makes the appropriate arrangements with the instructor ahead of time (with at least a two business days advance notice). Personal or professional issues will not be accepted as excuses to retake, make-up, or get extension on any exam. **To account for other emergencies, the final exam’s score may be used to replace the lowest chapter exam score.**

➤ **The Final exam:** The final exam is a mandatory comprehensive final - it might contain any of the material covered from the entire semester. The final exam weighs as a regular exam. Students are not allowed to leave and return to an exam once started. The final exam score may be used to replace the lowest chapter exam score, but a chapter exam score cannot be used to replace the final exam score. The final exam score will not be dropped or replaced. Students who miss the final exam will receive a 0% on their final exam with no chance of retake or make-up. **The Final exam will be on Thursday, December 13 1:00 pm - 2:50 pm in CCI 200.**

Grading Scale: Grade and Percent Range

A = 90% - 100%

B = 80% - 89%

C = 70% - 79%

D = 60% - 69%

F = Below 60%

Plagiarism: Reedley College rules on plagiarism will be enforced. Students cheating and students allowing others to cheat off of their assignment will receive a 0% on that assignment (whether it is a chapter exam, a final, or any other assignment). Students using a cell phone during a test regardless of the reason are considered to be cheating. Students using or getting unauthorized assistance are considered cheating.

What can you do to improve your grade and your learning outcome?

- Come to class prepared and on time; Attend daily.
- Read the book before attending class.
- Work on average 2 hours for every hour you are in class. Put in the maximum effort daily in every aspect of your work.
- Avoid procrastinating.
- Turn in well thought-out assignments on time with the completed work shown step-by-step.
- Do not wait until you are failing lost to ask questions.
- Working with others is good for you, so join a study group. Ask fellow students, and tutors for help.
- Attend MATH CENTER (in FEM1) OR the TUTORIAL CENTER (in the Library) for help and tutoring.
- Strong math and pre-algebra skills, as well as excellent study habits, are required to be successful. If you don't have strong math skills, you can compensate for that by having good study habits and putting extra effort into your work.

► Important Dates at Reedley College:

August 13 (M) Start of Fall 2018 semester

August 24 (F) Last day to drop a Fall 2018 full-term class for full refund

August 31 (F) Last day to register for a Fall 2018 full-term class in person

August 31 (F) Last day to drop a Fall 2018 full-term class to avoid a "W" in person

September 2 (SU) Last day to drop a Fall 2018 full-term class to avoid a "W" on WebAdvisor

September 3 (M) Labor Day Holiday (no classes held, campus closed)

September 14 (F) Last day to change a Fall 2018 class to/from Pass/No-Pass grading basis

October 12 (F) Last Day to drop a full-term class (letter grades assigned after this date)

November 12 (M) Veterans Day observed (no classes held, campus open)

November 22-23 (Th-F) Thanksgiving holiday (no classes held, campus closed)

December 10-14 (M-F) Fall 2018 final exams week

FINAL EXAM: Thursday, December 13 1:00 pm - 2:50 pm in CCI 200

December 14 (F) End of Fall 2018 semester

- It is the student's responsibility to ask *the Admissions and Records office* or check course schedule for any other dates that pertain to financial aid or drop deadlines of any kind.

Accommodations for students with disabilities:

- If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic test, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact the teacher as soon as possible.
- It is the student's responsibility to schedule their appointments (for tests, finals, etc.) with the DSPS office as soon as soon as they are announced in class. **Any special arrangements need to be done in advance and in writing.**

Course Description:

As stated in the Reedley College course outline, this course is the "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."

Course objectives:

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.
- It is the student's responsibility to put forward the time, effort, and ability needed to master these course objectives upon completion of this course. The lower the student's math ability, the higher will be the student's effort and time needed to master the objectives.

► Instructor reserves the right to make minor changes to the syllabus.