

BEGINNING ALGEBRA

WELCOME to Beginning Algebra: Students who attend class regularly, come prepared to class, participate in class, take notes, do the assignments, and pass the assessments should be successful. You **MUST** make an effort and do your **BEST** to ensure success in this class. To pass this course you will need a C or better grade to move on to the next level.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: In this course we will study algebraic expressions, linear equations and inequalities, linear equations and inequalities in two variables, exponents and polynomials, factoring and rational expressions.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Students performance will be evaluated upon their ability 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.
- Graphing linear equations in two variables and solve systems of linear equations.
- Simplify expression 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: We will study a total of seven chapters in this course.

Chapter 1: Review of Real Numbers

Chapter 2: Linear Equations

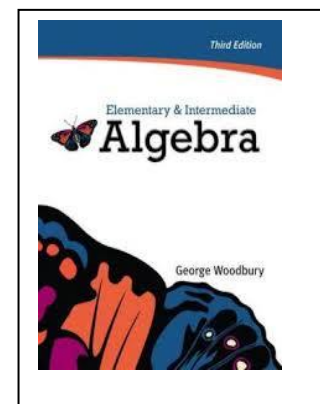
Chapter 3: Graphing Linear Equations

Chapter 4: System of Equations

Chapter 5: Exponents and Polynomials

Chapter 6: Factoring and Quadratic Equations

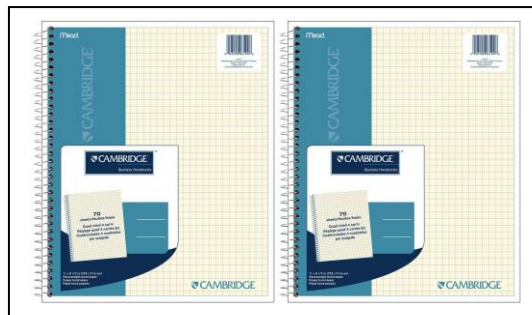
Chapter 7: Rational Expressions and Equations



PREREQUISITE: Successful completion (grade of C or better) of Math 250 or eligibility as determined by the assessment process.

REQUIRED MATERIALS: Two spiral **gridpaper** notebooks, Cambridge brand in the bookstore. No other notebooks will be accepted!

- 3-Ring Binder
- Pencils
- Scientific Calculator (NO TI-89 or cellphones)
- **Access Code to My Math Lab (Pearson)**



ASSIGNMENTS: Online assignments will account for 20% of your grade.

- Each homework assignment will be 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 assignments 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 this course!** Each assignment has a due date and time. Any late assignment will lose 25% of the points possible for every day is late.
- **Students who do not sign up at www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com and complete the first two assignments (Sections 1-1 and 1-2) by Thursday, January 18, 2018 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 **Thursday, January 30, 2018.** **Failure to do so will result in a drop from the course!**

IMPORTANT NOTICE: While working on an assignment, you do not have to complete an entire assignment in one seating. If you choose to stop for a while, make sure to click **SAVE** icon and the program will save your work. You can come back to work on the assignment and continue where you left off at another convenient time.

- **Being absent on the day the assignment is due does not excuse you from the late submission penalty.**

TUTORIAL SERVICES: Tutoring is available in the Tutorial Center during business hours which is located NEXT to the Library and Math Center is located in the FEM-1.

Note: If you have any questions you would like to ask of me, your, please ask me during class time or after class or contact me via email, **Canvas inbox** and I will do my best to help you.

ASSIGNMENTS NOTEBOOK: **ALL** online assignments 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 or highlighted. The **Assignment Notebook** will be collected

on the 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 assignments 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 grade. You will receive three attendance grades throughout the semester (Chapter 1 & 2, Chapter 3 & 4, Chapter 5 & 6 and Chapter 7) each one worth 10 points.

EXAMS:

- Six (6) exams, worth 100 points each will be given. The exams usually cover ONE chapter 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 exam **early**.

IMPORTANT DATES:

January 15, 2018	Martin's Luther King, Jr. Day
January 18, 2018	Deadline to enroll in MML and complete first two assignments
January 26, 2018	Last day to add this course or to drop the course to avoid a "W"
January 30, 2018	Deadline to be PERMANENTLY ENROLLED in MML
February 19, 2018	President's Day/Washington Day
March 9, 2018	Last day to drop
March 26-29, 2018	Spring recess/Spring Break (NO CLASSES HELD)
March 30, 2018	Good Friday (NO CLASSES HELD)
May 15, 2018	Final Exam

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.*

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

FINAL EXAM: A two hour comprehensive final exam is worth 100 points and it will be given during finals week. This final exam is cumulative (Chapter 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 assignment grade, quiz grade or attendance grade.

GRADING:

Letter Grade	Grading Scale	Categories	Percent of Grade
A	89.5%-100%	Assignments	20%
B	79.5%-89.4%	Quizzes	15%
C	66.5%-79.4%	Attendance	5%
D	54.5%-66.4%	Six Exams and Final Exam	60%
F	0%-54.4%		

EXAMPLE: If you homework assignments average is 85, the average of your quizzes is 70, the average of your attendance grades is 90 and the average of your exams and the final exam 78, then you would compute your grade as follows;

$$(.20)(85)+(.15)(70)+(.05)(90)+(.60)(78) = 17+10.5+4.5+46.8 = 78.8$$

- Your grade will then be determined by reading the above chart with the grading scale. Thus, your grade in the above example will be 78.8% or C.

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 for the Reedley College’s Academic Regulations.