Syllabus

Math 095 Elementary Algebra Foundations

Three Rivers Community College
Norwich, Connecticut 06360

June Decker, Associate Professor

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Course Title:	Elementary Algebra Foundations
Course Number:	MAT 095 CRN 30350
Credits:	3 Semester Hours, does not count toward a degree
Office	Room C124, New London Turnpike, Norwich CT.

 Office Hours
Monday 12-1PM, Wed 9-10 and 12-1 AM in my TRCC office, and Wednesday evenings online:
Log onto http://my.commnet.edu "Blackboard Vista – Chat" from 9 to 10PM. Meetings in
person or online are also available by appointment.

You are also able to get free tutoring at the tutor center Monday through Friday including
evening hours. TASC is next to the library at the TRCC campus. It also has an online question
and answer service link on the Vista Blackboard page where your courses are listed. 860-892-
5713

Course Description
This course extends the basic algebra skills acquired in MATH 075. The topics include:
exponents, polynomials, factoring, graphing, systems of linear equations, inequalities, radicals
and scientific notation. Prerequisite: MATH 075, its equivalent, or acceptable placement test
score.

Rationale
A basic understanding of algebra is necessary for many fields of study including business,
science, economics, technical fields, and mathematics. Algebraic skills are an essential tool
needed to comprehend future mathematics courses such as Statistics, Applied Calculus,
Trigonometry, and/or Calculus. Since mathematical problems are not limited to mathematics

courses, the skills of Elementary Algebra improve the student's ability to comprehend his/her environment as well as other college courses.

Required Materials
MyMathLab student access code available at the book store or online when you click "register" at www.coursecompass.com . You will need to enter MyMathLab course id: **DECKER35303**

Beginning Algebra 5th ed.- Martin-Gay is available as either a hardcover textbook for about $160, or as an on-line pdf file when you register for MyMathLab. You can also purchase the spiral bound version of the text. Above all, be sure you get the MyMathLab student access kit either with the hard copy of the text or all by itself. If you choose to purchase the MyMathLab code alone for $72, you can access a PDF copy of the text book online and print pages if you like hard copies.

Calculators are not required, but are allowed for all homework and exams. I encourage you to begin using a TI 83/84 or TI 89 calculator so that you will have had practice when you take either math 137 or math 135. You may also use the free graphing calculators available on the internet – just download one to your computer.

Grading Policy

A student will receive one of the following grades: A, A-, B+, B, B-. C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, F, W, I, P, or Audit. You can earn up to 1000 points this semester. Determination of your grade will be based on the following:

1.   Tests. There will be four exams (each worth 100 points) and a comprehensive final exam (worth 400 points). The semester exams are taken on-line. **The final exam is to be taken at a proctored testing site.   I will proctor the test at Three Rivers Community College on a May 12 at 8 AM, 10AM and 6:30PM. You and I can make arrangements to have your exam proctored at a testing center near you if you do not want to come to Three Rivers in Norwich, CT.** Please contact me as soon as possible so that we can arrange a testing site.

2.   One project called the Michael Jordan Race Project which is worth 40 points.

3.   Three required DISCUSSION on-line activities at http://my.commnet.edu "Blackboard"
a. The first is to introduce yourself on the discussion board on for 10 points
b. The second is to join me in the chat room just to see how it works so you are ready to use it when you need it (worth 10 points).
c. The other is to write a word problem like the ones in chapter 3, post it on the discussion board and answer it for 20 points

4.   The average of all the homework on MyMathLab is worth a total of 100 points.
5.   The chapter 1 quiz on MyMathLab is worth 20 points.

Your final grade will be the sum of the four semester exams, the one project, the activity on Vista Blackboard, the grade from MyMathLab homework, the ch 1 quiz, plus the 400-point final exam. This means that the final exam is weighted 40% of your final grade.

Grade Equivalents

A	930 – 1000 points	C+	770 -790
A-	900 - 920	C	730 - 760
		C-	700 - 720
B+	870 - 890		
B	830 - 860	D+	670 - 690
B-	800 - 820	D	630 - 660
		D-	600 –620
		F	590 or lower

Please note that a grade of C or better is required to go on to Math 137, and a D- or better is required to go on to Math 135 .

Withdrawal Policy

A "drop or withdrawal" from the course will be accepted in accordance with the designated withdrawal deadlines. Students need to provide the following information: full name, address, date of birth, student identification number and social security number, course reference number (CRN) and descriptor/subject and instructor's name, and if VA/FA benefits. Drops/withdrawals are processed only through the Registrar's Office at (860) 892-5756 or the Subbase at (860) 445-5575. The instructor's signature is NOT required for withdrawal. **Students who do not withdraw, but stop attending will be assigned an "F".**

Disabilities Statement

If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact the disabilities Counseling Services at 383-3240. To avoid any delay in the receipt of accommodations, you should contact the counselor as soon as possible. Please note that I cannot provide accommodations based upon disability until I have received an accommodation letter from the disabilities counselor.

<p style="text-align:center">Math 095 ONLINE Schedule of topics to be learned.</p>

In this course, you can expect to spend 3-4 hours on each of the 42 sessions below. Begin by watching the videos, reviewing power point lessons or reading the text and taking notes. After you peruse the math content, go to www.coursecompass.com to "Do Homework" and join chats and discussions. Tests and quizzes are under "Take at Test" in www.coursecompass.com . Below is a suggested schedule of what sections and topics you should learn each MWF if you are to finish the course on time. The schedule is flexible, however, and the only requirement is that you do all the work listed below by the final exam in Dec. Let me know if you are having trouble keeping up, and maybe I can help.

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Date to start session	Session	Homework from sections in text, tests, projects
August 27, 2010	1	1.4 Variable expressions and equations
Aug 30 Monday	2	1.5, 1.6, 1.7 +-x / real numbers
		Introduce yourself on Blackboard on the discussion board at http://my.commnet.edu
Sept 1	3	1.8 Properties of Real Numbers
		Do ch 1 QUIZ on MyMathLab by clicking on "take a test"
Sept 3 Sept 6-Labor Day-Mon	4	2.1 Simplify Algebraic Expressions – Time to catch your breath
Sept 8	5	2.2 Solve equations - addition property
	5	2.3 Solve equations, multiplication property
Sept 10	6	2.4 Solve linear equations
Sept 13 Monday	7	2.5 Intro to Problem Solving
Sept 15	8	2.6 Formulas and problem solving
Sept 17	9	2.7 % and mixture problems
Sept 20 Monday	10	2.8 Further Problem Solving
Sept 22	11	2.9 Solve Linear Inequalities
		Practice TEST #1 Chapters 1.4 – 2.9
Sept 24	12	Take TEST #1 on chapter 1 and 2
Sept 27	13	3.1 Rectangular Coordinate System
Sept 29	14	3.2 Graphing Linear Equations
Oct 1	15	3.3 x and y intercepts
Oct 4	16	3.4 Slope and Rate of Change
Oct 6	17	3.5 Equations of lines Post a word problem to the MyMathLab discussion board. Directions on http//:my.commnet.edu Blackboard "CourseContents" link. Word problem due by October 11 at 11:59 PM
Oct 8	18	3.6 Functions
Oct 11 Columbus Day, Classes in Session, School Open		Practice test #2 on chapt 3:Lines
Oct 13	19	Take TEST #2 on Chapter 3:Lines
Oct 15	20	4.1 Solve systems of equations by graphing
Oct 15 (cont'd)	20	4.2 Solve systems of equations by substitution
Oct 18	21	4.3 Solve systems of equations by addition
Oct 20	22	4.4 Problem solving with systems of equations
Oct 22	23	PROJECT : Michael Johnson Race, directions available on Blackboard "CourseContents" link.

		Due Nov 3
Oct 25	24	5.1 Exponents
Oct 27	25	5.2 Add/subtract polynomials
Oct 29	26	5.3 Multiply polynomials
	26	5.4 Special Products
Nov 1	27	5.5 Negative exponents and scientific notation
Nov 3	28	5.6 Division of polynomials
		PRACTICE TEST #3 Chapter 4 andqa 5
Nov 5	29	TEST #3 Chapter 4 and 5
Nov 8	30	6.1 Greatest common factor and factor by grouping
Nov 10	31	6.2 Factor trinomials $x^2 +bx+c$
Nov 12	32	6.3 Factor Trinomials $ax^2 +bx +c$ OR 6.4 Factor Trinomials $ax^2 +bx +c$ by grouping
Nov 15	33	6.5 Factor Binomials
Nov 17	34	6.6 Solve Quadratic Equations by factoring
Nov 19	35	6.7 Problem solving with Quadratics
		Practice test for ch 6
Nov 22 Nov 25 Happy Thanksgiving	36	TEST #4 on ch 6 Materials for final exam review available on Vista Blackboard
Nov 29	37	8.1 Intro to radicals, 8.2 Simplifying radicals
Dec 1	38	8.3 Add and Subtract radicals
Dec 3	39	8.4 Multiply and Divide radicals
Dec 6	40	8.5 Solve equations containing radicals (there is no test on chapt 8, only homework) 8.6 Pythagorean Theorem, radical word problems
Dec 8 REVIEW for Final	41	Last day to withdraw is 12/9/10 – my signature is not required, but if you are thinking of withdrawing, you might want to mention it to me in case there are other options for you.
		Please do the practice final exam on available on Vista Blackboard. Hand in practice final on Dec 10 or 15 when you take your final exam for 5 extra points on your final exam.
Dec 10 or 15 2010	42	FINAL EXAM – paper and pencil test to be proctored by me at TRCC or at another site.
FINAL EXAM is to be taken in person at TRCC. Choose one time to come for the 1 hour exam which I will be proctoring:		Dec 10 Friday at 9 AM in room D219, Dec 15 Wednesday at 10 AM room D219, Dec 15 Wednesday 1 PM in room D211 Dec 15 Wednesday or at 6:00 PM in room ? OR you can arrange to have your final exam proctored at a location of your choice if you let me know so I can help you.

All work on MyMathLab or Vista Blackboard must be submitted by Dec 14 at 6PM.