

Syllabus

Math 095 Elementary Algebra Foundations

Three Rivers Community College

Norwich, Connecticut 06360

Kathryn M. Gundersen

E-mail: kgundersen@trcc.commnet.edu

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Syllabus

Course Title: Elementary Algebra Foundations
Course Number: MAT 095
Credits: 3 Semester Hours, Not applicable to degree

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.

Course Outcomes

At the end of the course students will be able to:

1. Understand variables and variable expressions
2. Understand equivalence
3. Perform algebraic operations on expressions
4. Understand linear functions
5. Solve word problems using linear equations

Required Materials

Beginning Algebra 5th ed.- Martin-Gay with MyMathLab AccessKit

Access to a computer is necessary. This course has been set up as a MyMathLab based course. MML is a website that is available to you 24/7, whereas our total class time each week is less than 3 hours. MML is an incredibly powerful tool to help you master the concepts of this course. MML is required to successfully complete this course. The codes you need to register online are included with the purchase of your text. MML contains an online version of your textbook, links to video clips, practice exercises, animation, and unlimited tutorial exercises. The course code is .

Notebook: Each student is required to have a notebook for class notes.

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. 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 (weighted twice - 200 points). **If you must miss the day of an exam, you must contact me prior to the exam to set up a make-up date. If you do not contact me prior to the exam, you receive a grade of 0 on that exam.**

Quizzes will also be given (both on paper and online). Quizzes are given to serve as an indicator, for both the student and myself, to see if the material is being learned. A poor grade of a quiz should indicate to you that further study is required before the next exam. Quiz grades will not hurt your final average.

2. Two projects (details to come later) which will be graded out of 50 points.
3. Homework average for course: Homework is assigned for every class period and will be completed prior to the next class meeting. All homework will be submitted through MML. You can access this program from any internet connected computer at www.coursecompass.com. Each section of the course has a homework assignment on MML with it. The average of the these assignments counts as a test grade (i.e. 100 points). I have set up the program so that you need an 80% in order to proceed to the next assignment, therefore if you do all assignments to the minimum level the least this grade can be is 80%. Most students should be able to get 100% for this grade.
4. Your final grade will be the sum of the four semester exams, the projects, the homework grade and the final exam, divided by eight.
5. Attendance – **Attendance in this class is mandatory.** Three absences will be allowed, but every absence after that reduces your course grade by one step. For example, if you have a B at the end of the course, but have missed 4 classes, you will be assigned a grade of B-. If you miss 5 classes your grade will be C+. And so on. **No exceptions to this policy.**

Grade Equivalents

A	93 - 100	C+	77 -79
A-	90 - 92	C	73 - 76
		C-	70 - 72
B+	87 - 89		
B	83 - 86	D+	67 - 69

B-	80 - 82	D	63 - 66
		D-	60 - 62
		F	59 or lower

Please note that a grade of C or better is required to go on to the next course.
The college holds strictly to this policy.

Academic Integrity Policy

Academic integrity is essential to a useful education. Failure to act with academic integrity severely limits a person's ability to succeed in the classroom and beyond. Please be familiar with the college policies as set out in the student handbook.

Withdrawal Policy

A verbal "drop or withdrawal" from the course will be accepted through the 10th week of classes 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. Verbal drops/withdrawals are processed only through the Registrar's Office at (860) 892-5756 or the Subbase at (860) 445-5575. **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.