<u>Syllabus</u>
Three Rivers Community College
MAT 090 – Math Pathways
Spring 2011
Course Registration Number (CRN) – 12061
M, W, F 1:00-1:50 pm, Room D219

Instructor:
Roxanne N. Tisch
Office: C248
Office Hours: Monday 4:00 – 5:00 pm
                Wednesday 9:00 – 10:00 am
                Friday 12:00 – 1:00 pm
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Educational Assistant:
Mary Ellen Petersen

Course Description:
Math Pathways is a series of modules that can be individually tailored to prepare a student for math courses depending on what the student already knows. The modules include: whole numbers, fractions, decimals, proportions, ratios, percents, signed numbers, exponents, inequalities, radicals, algebraic expressions, functions, solving first degree equations, polynomials, factoring, graphing, systems of linear equations, and applications.

Required Materials:
- The text is Math Pathways MAT 090. This is a custom book created especially for TRCC. It must be purchased in the bookstore.
- Access Kit for MyMathLab software – this will come packaged with the book.
- Binder or folders – at least 1 folder is needed.
- Loose leaf paper
- Pencils

Attendance:
Attendance and participation are required for this course. If you are late or leave early three times, it will count as an absence. You are expected to work on math during class time. Texting, web browsing, or engagement in other non-course related activities will result in an unsatisfactory attendance and participation grade. If you miss more than 10% of the scheduled classes for the semester, you will receive unsatisfactory progress for the semester. If you have exceeded the number of allowed absences, you may fill out a petition to request a grade of satisfactory progress for the semester. The petition will be discussed by the Math Pathways Committee and a group decision will be made.

How This Works:

Math Pathways is divided into two portions: a seminar that meets approximately one hour per week and lab-time during class where you work approximately two hours per week. On any given day some students will be in seminar while some are working on the computer.

The seminar will serve multiple purposes. We will investigate long-term questions that cannot be tackled in a simple word problem. We will help you develop skills (not necessarily math skills) that will be useful in your future math classes. We will work on conceptual understanding of why we do things instead of just how to do mathematical tasks. We will not have seminar during the first week so that everyone can become familiar with MyMathLab.

During lab-time, you will work on developing skills in MyMathLab. The content has been divided into a series of 9 modules. In order to complete MAT 090 and move on to MAT 135 or MAT 137, you will need to complete or test out of all nine modules and complete one or two exams. You will work on the modules one at a time. Once a module is completed you will begin the next module. Here is an example of how this works for Module 1.

- o Take the Module 1 pre-test. Module 1 focuses on arithmetic using whole numbers. You may only take the pre-test once so make sure you start with enough time available.
    - If you score 80 or higher on the pre-test for Module 1, tell the Educational Assistant (EA). You can proceed to the Module 2 pre-test.
    - If you score below 80, you will proceed as follows.
        - Pick up a copy of the Module 1 packet located in the document holder in D-219. This provides a brief introduction to the module, a checklist of tasks required to complete the module, and a problem set.
        - In MyMathLab, work through the assignments on the checklist. You will be directed to take notes, work with interactive applets, complete homework problem sets, take quizzes, etc. In order to move to the next assignment, you must complete each task with a grade of 85% or higher.
        - When you complete the MyMathLab assignments you will turn in your "notebook". The notebook is actually a folder that includes a coverpage, notes for each section of the module, and the completed problem set.
        - At this point, you can take the Module 1 Test. In order to pass the module 1 Test, you must score at least 80%. (Calculators are not allowed on test for Modules 1 through 4.)
        - If you do not pass the Module 1 test, go back and study some more. You will get a second attempt to take the test.
        - If you do not pass on the second attempt, you will schedule one-on-one time with the instructor or EA. After working with the instructor/EA and completing additional problems, you will get a third attempt.

You do not have to pass all 9 modules in one semester. Within the first two weeks, the instructor will meet with you individually to develop a timeline. You must complete at least three modules per semester. At this pace, it would take you three semesters to complete MAT 090. You do not have to buy the book or MyMathLab access again - your code will still work and we will have records of which modules you have completed.

There will be two pencil and paper exams in MAT 090. One occurs after Module 4 and the other occurs after Module 9. If you pass all of the pre-tests for Modules 1 through 4, you do not have to take the exam after Module 4. Everyone will have to take the exam after Module 9.

Grading Policy:
At the end of the semester you will receive a P, M, or F.
- P: This grade indicates that you have successfully completed or tested out of all 9 modules, you have completed the necessary exams, and hou have a satisfactory attendance grade. A grade of P in MAT 090 will allow you to register for MAT 135 or MAT 137.
- M: This grade indicates that you are making progress but you have not yet successfully completed all 9 modules and exams. In order to receive a grade of M, you must successfully complete at least three modules and have a satisfactory attendance grade. If you receive an M, you can register for MAT 090 next semester and continue on the module where you were last working. If you receive an M and have completed Module 4 and the exam, you may register for MAT 095.
- F: This grade indicates that you did not successfully complete three modules or that you have an unsatisfactory attendance grade.

Contact:
All communication will occur by email or announcements in MyMathLab. Please make sure that your email addresses in MyMathLab and MyCommNet are accurate. Check your email regularly to be informed of any changes in schedule.

College Withdrawal Policy:
You may withdraw from this class any time up to and including May 9 and you will receive a W grade on your transcript. However, you must complete a withdrawal form in the Registrar's Office at the time of withdrawal; if you merely stop attending classes you will be assigned a grade of F. Any eligibility for refund of tuition is based on the date that the registrar receives the withdrawal.

Disabilities Statement:
If you have a hidden or visible disability that may require classroom or test-taking modifications, please see me as soon as possible so arrangements can be made. If you have not already done so, please contact the Learning Specialist, Chris Scarborough, at 892-5751.

Course Outcomes:
- Recognize and articulate the fundamentals of numerical and algebraic reasoning
- Utilize inductive and deductive thought processes for creating algebraic expressions and applying theorems and algorithms
- Demonstrate effective communication with mathematical terms
- Develop and apply metacognitive, affective and academic behaviors
- Choose appropriate technology and representations to solve math problems

Academic Integrity:
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. Furthermore, academic dishonesty erodes the legitimacy of every degree awarded by the College. Collaboration is encouraged on many assignments such as seminar assignments and homework. Tutors are available to assist you with this sort of work.

Exams are considered individual work and must be completed without unauthorized assistance of any kind, including help of other students, tutors, or notes. All test material is to be turned in with the test paper. Attempting to bring work out of the testing area and/or share that work with other students is consider cheating. Cheating on tests, misrepresentation of attendance, falsifying records, or lying will result in loss of credit for all work involved.

A full copy of the college's academic integrity policy is in the school's catalog and in the student handbook.

Additional Resources:
TASC (the combined Tutoring Center and Writing Center) is located in room. C-117.

TASC provides free one-to-one or group tutoring in math as well as in many other subject areas. TASC also has textbooks (both old and current), videotapes, and many handouts available for student use. Also, TASC's portion of the school's website has many links to other online resources; go to the TASC homepage at http://www.trcc.commnet.edu/ed_resources/tasc/index.htm and follow the link to "Online Resources."

One of your greatest resources is each other. I encourage you to get to know your classmates and exchange contact information.