

Syllabus
Three Rivers Community College
MAT 095 – Elementary Algebra
Spring 2011
Course Registration Number (CRN) – 10619
M, W, F 11:00-11:50 am, Room D203

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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Course Description:

This course extends the basic algebra skills acquired in MAT* K075. The topics include signed numbers, solving first-degree equations, exponents, polynomials, and factoring, graphing, systems of linear equations, inequalities, radicals, and scientific notation. This course does not count towards the minimum requirements for graduation.

Prerequisites:

Prerequisite: Acceptable placement score or MAT* K075 with a "C#" grade or better. A grade of "C#" or better is required to pass this course.

Required Materials:

- ♦ The text is Beginning Algebra, 5th Ed., Elayn Martin-Gay, Pearson Prentice Hall, 2009. You can purchase a hardcover book with MyMathLab or just the electronic access kit.
- ♦ Access Kit for MyMathLab software
- ♦ Notebook or binder

Attendance:

Attendance in classes is strongly recommended. *I will teach a class only once*; you are responsible for getting the class notes, homework, and any other assignments from another student and completing that work by the next week after any missed class. Also, short unannounced quizzes may be given and they cannot be made up.

Attendance at exams is mandatory. You will be informed of the dates of tests at least one week in advance. Make-up exams may be given *with my prior consent*. If you must miss an exam, please speak with me before the date of the exam so that arrangements can be made.

Grading Policy:

Throughout the semester there will be three 100-point exams and a final exam (100 points). Another possible 200 points will be distributed among homework, projects, quizzes, other assignments, and class participation. The final grade will be determined by adding the total points earned and dividing by 6. Letter grade equivalents are listed below:

Grade	Percent of Points Earned
A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	Below 60

The prerequisite for moving on to the next course (MAT 137 Intermediate Algebra) is a C or better in this course.

Homework:

All homework will be completed using My Math Lab. Homework will be assigned each class. I will be checking regularly to make sure you are keeping up with the homework. It is in your best interest to do at least the assigned problems, if not more. The more you do any math, the easier it becomes.

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.

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. In this class and in the course of your academic career, present only your own best work; clearly document the sources of the material you use from others; and act at all times with honor. A full copy of the college's academic integrity policy is in the school's catalog and in the student handbook.

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**.

Cell Phone Use:

Please turn off the ringer on all cell phones/pagers before the start of each class. If you have a situation where you absolutely must be able to take a call, please notify me before class. Texting during class will negatively affect your grade.

Course Outline:

We will cover the following sections of the text:

Chapter 1. Review of Real Numbers

- 1.2 Symbols and Sets of Numbers
- 1.4 Introduction to Variable Expressions and Equations
- 1.5 Adding Real Numbers
- 1.6 Subtracting Real Numbers
- 1.7 Multiplying and Dividing Real Numbers
- 1.8 Properties of Real Numbers

Chapter 2. Equations, Inequalities, and Problem Solving

- 2.1 Simplifying Algebraic Expressions
- 2.2 The Addition Property of Equality
- 2.3 The Multiplication Property of Equality
- 2.4 Solving Linear Equations
- 2.5 An Introduction to Problem Solving
- 2.6 Formulas and Problem Solving
- 2.7 Percent and Mixture Problem Solving
- 2.8 Further Problem Solving
- 2.9 Solving Linear Inequalities

Chapter 3. Graphing

- 3.1 Reading Graphs and the Rectangular Coordinate System
- 3.2 Graphing Linear Equations
- 3.3 Intercepts
- 3.4 Slope and Rate of Change
- 3.5 Equations of Lines

Chapter 4. Solving Systems of Linear Equations and Inequalities

- 4.1 Solving Systems of Linear Equations by Graphing
- 4.2 Solving Systems of Linear Equations by Substitution
- 4.3 Solving Systems of Linear Equations by Addition
- 4.4 Systems of Linear Equations and Problem Solving

Chapter 5. Exponents and Polynomials

- 5.1 Exponents
- 5.2 Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
- 5.3 Multiplying Polynomials
- 5.4 Special Products
- 5.6 Negative Exponents and Scientific Notation

Chapter 6. Factoring Polynomials

- 6.1 The Greatest Common Factor and Factoring by Grouping
- 6.2 Factoring Trinomials of the Form $x^2 + bx + c$
- 6.3 Factoring Trinomials of the Form $ax^2 + bx + c$ and Perfect Square Trinomials
- 6.4 Factoring Trinomials of the Form $ax^2 + bx + c$ by Grouping
- 6.5 Factoring Binomials
- 6.6 Solving Quadratic Equations by Factoring

Chapter 8. Roots and Radicals

- 8.1 Introduction to Radicals
- 8.2 Simplifying Radicals
- 8.3 Adding and Subtracting Radicals
- 8.4 Multiplying and Dividing Radicals