

Syllabus
MAT 092 Introductory Algebra
Fall 2008

Course:

Line number 29713: MWF 7:30–8:30 AM, CM 472

Lecturer: Mark A. Carty

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Office hours: by appointment

Text: *Consortium for Foundation Mathematics, Mathematics in Action*, Third Edition, ISBN 0-321-44448-5. **IMPORTANT:** Graphing Calculator (TI-83 or TI-84 is recommended)

Material to be Covered: This course covers basic topics in Algebra, including linear behavior; linear equations and inequalities in one and two variables; systems of equations in two variables; function notation, graphs, and data tables; operations on polynomials; properties of exponents; and applications. Prerequisites: Grade of “C” or better in MAT082 or MAT102, or equivalent, or satisfactory score on District Placement Exam. Mastery of topics in this course will prepare you to take further courses in math. The next math course, MAT 120 or MAT 122 (Intermediate Algebra), also requires a graphing calculator (TI-83 or TI-84 preferred).

Sources: In addition to the instructor and the text, another resource for students in the Math/Science Center in CM-441 A, open M-R. Check exact schedule for times convenient to you. Students may go in to work on homework or to ask questions.

Homework and Quizzes: Homework will be assigned on a regular schedule, and it is due at the start of class. Late homework will not be accepted (unless it is the result of an officially excused absence). There will be occasional, possibly unannounced, quizzes, during the semester. Missed quizzes may not be made up (unless this is the result of an officially excused absence).

Exams: There will be three exams and a final. These exams are scheduled as indicated in the course calendar. The final exam will be cumulative, but with an emphasis on the material covered since the third test.

Final Exam: Monday, December 15 from 7:30-9:20 am, location TBA.

Grading: Your final grade will be determined by your accumulated points (from homework, tests, and the final exam) according to the following scale:

$$90 - 100\% = A, \quad 80 - 89\% = B, \quad 70 - 79\% = C, \quad 60 - 69\% = D, \quad 0 - 59\% = F$$

Homework, Quizzes	100 points
Three One-Hour Exams	600 points
Final Exam	200 points
Participation	100 points
Total	1000 points

A	1000-900 points
B	899-800 points
C	799-700 points
D	699-600 points
F	0-599 points

Working Together: It is ok to work together on homework. However, when it comes time for you to write up the solutions, I expect you to do this on your own, and it would be best for your own understanding if you put aside your notes from the discussions with your classmates and wrote up the solutions entirely from scratch. Working together on exams, of course, is expressly forbidden.

Calculator: Students may use a graphing calculator on exams and homework. Students may not use a machine with symbolic manipulation capabilities on exams. Thus, no TI-89's, TI-92's, HP-48's or laptop computers may be used on exams. Please see the lecturer if you have any questions.

Absences: You are expected to attend every class. If you are not able to turn in a homework assignment, take a quiz, or take an exam because of an unexcused absence, you will not be able to turn the homework in late or take the quiz or exam. A college excuse from a scheduled class activity such as an exam must be presented in writing no later than two weeks prior to the date of the absence. An absence due to illness or family emergency may be excused, provided that you can supply acceptable written evidence if required, and that you notify the lecturer *as soon as possible*. Notification is almost always possible immediately upon occurrence of an emergency. If you're too sick to telephone, you can get a friend to do it. Failure to make such timely notification will result in denial of your request.

Cheating: Cheating or plagiarism is *a failure in the course*.

Expectations: I expect that everyone will maintain a classroom conducive to learning. I like an informal atmosphere, but it must be orderly. Thus, everyone is expected to behave with basic politeness, civility, and respect for others. In particular, talking in class is ok if it's part of a class discussion or with me. Private communications are not, especially during quizzes and tests. Neither are reading extraneous materials or using electronic equipment.