

West Los Angeles College
Mathematics Department
Fall 2015 Course Syllabus

Course: **Mathematics 123A Elementary and Intermediate Algebra I**
Section: 1478, 4 Units Instructor: Patricia Arriola
Email: arriolp@lacitycollege.edu
Days/Time: TuWTh 9:35-10:50a.m. Room: MSA102
Office Hours: Wednesdays: 8:35 to 9:20a.m. at MSB217.

This is the first module of a 3-semester combined Elementary and Intermediate Algebra course. The entry level for 123A is the same as Math 115 or Math 117. The exit level for 123C is the same as Math 125 or Math 128.

Course Description:

Prerequisite:

Mathematics 110 or 112 with a grade of "C" or better, or placement through the WLAC Assessment process.

Course Requirements:

We will cover chapters 1-5 in this course and the remainder of the book in Math 123B and Math 123C. Copies of the regular 5th edition can be purchased used, on-line. Rental is NOT a good option because you will need this book for three semesters. You can buy the online version if you prefer, it comes with many more options to help you.

1. Take advantage of the FREE tutors at the library.
2. Study the respective assigned chapters from the textbook before coming to class.
3. There will be approximately four on campus exams (bring scantron and exam booklets for the day of the test. NO scantrons, NO Exam booklets, NO EXAM!, #2 pencil and scientific calculator). Each of the four exams is **worth approximately 15%** of your final course grade. **If you are found committing any act of academic dishonesty (cheating), you will receive a negative one hundred percent (-100%) for this test. You will not be able to drop this negative score.**
4. **There are no make up exams. Your next exam will count twice your score with an excused absence for one missed exam only. Advanced notice is mandatory.** Don't miss an examination and then show up. Write me ahead of time.
5. In addition, to the exams, there will be weekly homework assignments. Homework is **worth approximately 10%** of your final course grade. Refer to the page handout on homework for these assignments. **YOU NEED TO SUBMIT YOUR HOMEWORK the day of the Exam ONLY.**
6. There will be one Final exam **worth 30%** of your final course grade. **If you are found committing any act of academic dishonesty (cheating), you will receive a negative one hundred percent (-100%) for this test. You will not be able to drop this negative score.**
7. The instructor has the option of excluding you from the course. If you are not active in class or doing failing work, I will utilize this option at the earliest possible date. Once you have been excluded, there will be no reinstatement.

8. Class participation is expected every class section. Daily attendance will be taken by signing an attendance sheet.

Materials: Please bring your math notebook (with graph paper), pencils, a calculator (if you have one) and the textbook to class each day. Calculators or laptops with symbolic manipulation capabilities, and calculators built into any device with communication capability (such as an iPhone) are not allowed on tests.

College-Wide Student Learning Outcomes and Course Policies

A. Critical Thinking: Classroom activities will require sound reasoning to analyze, model and solve problems.

B. Communication: On in-class activities and tests you will be expected to show and explain your work in a clear, well-organized manner.

C. Quantitative Reasoning: This is the core of your mathematics learning experience and will be demonstrated in all the work you do in this course.

D. Apply self-assessment and reflection strategies to learn from your mistakes and to seek better methods to solve particular problems.

E. Civic Responsibility: Students are expected to respect classmates as well as the instructor. This includes refraining from disruptive behavior (coming late, leaving early, wandering in and out of class, eating/drinking during class, side conversations, instant messaging, etc) and practicing positive behaviors (cooperation, civility, helpfulness, constructive engagement in class activity).

F. Technical Competence: Students are expected to utilize web-based resources to complement classroom- and text-based activities.

G. Cultural Diversity: Respect for all classmates and appreciation of the universality of mathematics in diverse cultures.

H. Ethics: All students will maintain the highest standards of academic honesty. You may NOT give or receive help on tests or quizzes, and you may not turn in someone else's work as your own. *NOTE: If you are discovered committing any act of academic dishonesty (cheating), you will receive no credit ("zero") for the test or assignment AND you will be suspended from class AND the case will be referred to the Vice-President for Student Affairs for further disciplinary action. For further information see the WLAC Catalogue and Schedule of Classes.*

I. Aesthetics: Mathematicians often talk about a "beautiful" or "elegant" method of solving a problem.

Mathematics Student Learning Outcomes: Successful students will be able to:

- Apply quantitative thinking processes using basic mathematical operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division) to solve common academic, workplace, and family problems. (Theme: quantitative thinking; mathematical operations)
- Analyze and interpret spatial and graphic data (schedules, maps, tables, graphs, and geometric figures). (Theme: spatial and graphic data)
- Use mathematical tools essential for analyzing quantitative problems and for producing solutions. (Theme: mathematical tools)
- Apply advanced mathematical concepts and tools (algebra, calculus) essential in upper division academic work and/or workplace tasks. (Theme: advanced mathematical operations – algebra, calculus)
- Select appropriate math strategies for solving and handling application problems involving finance, economics, and family issues. (Theme: mathematical problem solving)

Math 123A Student Learning Outcomes: Successful students will be able to:

- Perform basic operations on rational numbers and polynomials, using correct order of operations.
- Use appropriate techniques to solve linear and factorable-quadratic equations and linear inequalities.
- Write and graph linear equations in two variables: analyze slope and intercepts.
- Factor polynomials.
- Solve problems using ratio, proportion, and percent.
- Analyze, model, and solve “story” problems (applications) using the techniques outlined in the second bullet.
- Locate and utilize supplemental resources online and in textbooks.

Grading Criteria:

4 Exams (15 % each) 60%

Homework 10%

Final Exam 30%

Your final grade will be a letter grade based on the following percentages:

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	59% and less

Attendance: If you miss more than 2 meeting (a week) of the course, the instructor has the option of excluding you from the course. If you are doing failing work, I will utilize this option at the earliest possible date. Once you have been excluded, there will be no reinstatement. If you miss a class e-mail your instructor before or right away.

Calculators:

In this and future courses, the use of calculators is permitted and encouraged. I advise you to buy a scientific calculator. **You may not use your cell phones or any other electronic device as calculators during quizzes or examinations!!! Get a scientific calculator!!**

Cell Phones:

Cell phone use is strictly forbidden in the classroom. If you possess a cell phone, it must be set on silent vibrate mode. If you absolutely must take an emergency call, please exit the classroom quietly and do so outside.

Extra Help.

There is tutoring available in HLRC and Online tutoring will be done via email, a message board, a white board and by phone. The tutoring link is at <http://www.wlac.edu/online>.

For those of you who have a physical or learning disability, there is extensive variety of services through the Office of Disable Students Programs and Services located in the students services building SSB 320 (PHONE 310-287-4450). If you think that you qualify for their services, contact the office immediately to better ensure such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

Academic Honesty: will be strictly and vigorously enforced- NO CHEATING- PLAGIARISM or OTHER FORMS OF DISHONESTY WILL BE TOLERATED.

Any cases of either will be referred to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. For more on acceptable behavior, read *Standards of Student Conduct* on page 119 of the Schedule of Classes.

Required Text

Beginning & Intermediate Algebra by Lial, Hornsby & McGinnis.

The Bookstore has a WLAC Custom Edition which is basically the regular 5th ed (2012, ISBN-9780321715869) We will cover chapters 1-5 in this course, but the final exam is cumulative Chapters 1 -5. You can get the 5th edition (used or in electronic form) much more cheaply on-line.

On Campus Final Exam Date:

Wednesday 12/16/2015 Time: 10:15a.m.-12:15 p.m. (Room MSA102).

Final Exam covers the first five chapters of the textbook and focuses on the Student Learning Outcomes for the course.

Chapters 1- 5.

Most of us are dealing with a lot besides class: job (or job hunt), family problems, child care, health issues, housing issues, and all the other impacts of the deep crisis in our society today. The **WLAC Health Center** can hook you up with a counselor to help you deal with stress. Other programs on campus that can include **Workforce Development, TRIO-SSS, EOP&S, Counseling**, the Veterans' Office, and **DSPS**. Please speak to your teacher – or contact me by person or email – and I will try to point you in the right direction.

The LA County hotline is **211** – it refers you to publicly available services in your area.

Mathematics 123A Tentative Course Schedule

Homework

The homework assignments consist of several problems in each section. Homework assignments are due on the day of the Exam ONLY. **I DO NOT ACCEPT LATE HOMEWORKS.** Refer to the page handout on homework for these assignments.

	Week of	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
1	9/1-9/3	Course Introduction	1.1	1.2
2	9/8-9/10	1.3	1.4	1.5
3	9/15-9/17	1.6	1.7	1.8
4	9/22-9/24	Chapter 1 Review	2.1	Exam (Ch 1)
5	9/29-10/1	2.2	2.3	2.4
6	10/6-10/8	2.5	2.6	2.7
7	10/13-10/15	2.8	Chapter 2 Review	Exam (Ch 2)
8	10/20-10/22	3.1	3.2	3.3
9	10/27-10/29	3.4	Review	Exam (Ch 3)
10	11/3-11/5	4.1	4.2	4.3
11	11/10-11/12	4.4	Holiday	4.5
12	11/17 – 11/19	4.6	4.7	Chapter 4 Review
13	11/24- 11/26	Exam (Chapter 4)	5.1	Holiday
14	12/1 -12/3	5.2	5.3	5.4
15	12/8 – 12/10	5.5	5.6	Cumulative Review
16	12/16		FINAL EXAM 12/16/15 10:15-12:15p.m.	

The above course schedule is subject to change any day.

How to log in to ETUDES

In order to log in to your online course, you need to know your ETUDES **User ID** and **Password**. Please follow the ETUDES login instructions below.

Please be aware that you may not log in to online courses until the official start date of the term. Your User ID and Password will not work before the first day of class.

ETUDES User ID

First 2 letters of first name +

First 2 letters of last name +

Last 5 digits of Student ID # (Not your Social Security #)

Example:

Jose Garcia has the following Student ID: #880123456

Based on this example, Jose's ETUDES **User ID** would be = **joga23456**

ETUDES Password

MonthDay of birth in school records

(Type using all lower case letters)

Example:

Jose Garcia's birthday is April 11th, 1982 (04/11/82). Based on this example, Jose's ETUDES **Password** would be **0411**.

NOTE: This is a permanent account that you will use for all ETUDES courses for this term and all subsequent terms. Your login information does not get reset from term to term. If you change your password, the change will apply to all of your current and future courses. Please save your login information for future reference.

Important! Drop Date Information

The deadline to drop without a "W" is the last day of Week 1 (of the semester), which is Sunday, **September 13th** for Fall 2015. If you must drop a course, drop before the specified deadline for dropping a class without a grade of "W." Dropping *after* Week 1 will result in a "W" on your transcript. **Effective July 1, 2012** students will only have 3 attempts to pass a class. If a student gets a "W" or grade of "D", "F", "I", or "NP" in a class, that will count as an attempt. *A student's past record of course attempts district wide will also be considered.* Therefore, before the end of Week 1 you should carefully consider if you can reasonably manage this course with the other factors in your life (e.g. work, family, course load). **If you think you will not be able to complete this course with a C or better, drop by Sunday, September 13th.** If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to talk to me or e-mail me. You may also see a counselor in the Counseling Center.