

Initial Course Syllabus

Basic Course Information

West Los Angeles College Mathematics 123A – section 4479 – 4:30 – 6:35 PM Tuesdays and Thursdays

Elementary/Intermediate Algebra – first part of three parts – MS006 - spring, 2015

Mr. Stillson – office hours Tuesday and Thursday from 4:00 – 4:25PM in MS006

Contact – (310) 287-4219 (mathematics department) or astillson@sbcglobal.net

Prerequisite: Grade of C or better in Math 112 or 110 or placement by Math Dept.

Continuation: Grade of C or better in Math 123A for 123B.

Textbook: *Beginning and Intermediate Algebra* – Lial, Hornsby and McGinnis – 5th edition

Purpose of course – understanding of basic algebraic concepts and their applications

General learning goals – facility and understanding of topics covered

Format – homework and/or quiz review, new concepts, applications, weekly quiz

Instructional methods – instructor presentation with note-taking, student practice

Computer support code: stillson20621

This course is designed to comply with West Los Angeles College Student Learning Outcomes (SLO). See topics covered for details.

1. Critical Thinking: Analyze problems by differentiating fact from opinions, using evidence, and using sound reasoning to specify multiple solutions and their consequences.

2. Quantitative Reasoning: Identify, analyze, and solve problems that are quantitative in nature.

3. Technical Competence: Utilize the appropriate technology effectively for informational, academic, personal and professional needs.

This course is designed to comply with the following Program Learning Outcomes:

1. Apply quantitative thinking processes using basic mathematical operations to solve common academic, workplace, and family problems.

2. Use mathematical tools essential for analyzing problems and producing solutions.

3. Select appropriate math strategies for solving and handling real life problems involving finance, economics, and family issues.

Tentative Schedule - Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30PM – 6:40PM

Starting 2/10 and ending 6/4 – no classes on 3/31, spring break 4/7 and 4/9 - Final on 6/4 at 4:30PM (2 hours)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Sections</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Sections</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Sections</u>
2/10	1.1	2/12	1.2 – 1.6	2/17	1.7 – 1.8
2/19	review and quiz 1	2/24	2.1 – 2.3	2/26	2.3
3/3	2.8	3/5	review and quiz 2	3/10	2.4-2.5
3/12	2.6	3/17	2.7	3/19	review and quiz 3
3/24	3.1-3.2	3/26	3.3-3.4	3/31	holiday
4/2	review and quiz 4	4/14	4.1 – 4.3	4/16	4.4 – 4.5
4/21	4.6 – 4.7	4/23	review and quiz 5	4/28	5.1 – 5.2
4/30	5.3	5/5	5.4	5/7	review and quiz 6
5/12	5.5	5/14	5.5 – 5.6	5/19	5.6
5/21	review and quiz 7	5/26	cumulative review	5/28	cumulative review
6/2	cumulative review	6/4	final exam		

Grading System

Grading: 55% quizzes, 40% final, 5% homework

Quizzes: Given the last hour on days when scheduled.

Quiz format: 10 questions – each question graded 10 for right – 5 for partially right – 0 for wrong answer and no work shown – 4 for omitted.

Homework: for practice and for understanding – counted into grade – checked from 12/3 – 12/12

Final computation: based on weighted percentages – A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F = 0-59

Policies

Absence and tardiness always indirectly affect performance. If a student has more than 4 absences, I reserve the option to exclude said student.

There are no make-up quizzes. There are 7 scheduled quizzes and the quiz average is based on the number of quizzes taken. A student may take one quiz of his/her choice as a take-home. Students who take 6 or 7 quizzes will have the lowest quiz grade excluded from the average. Students who take less than 5 quizzes will be given a score of 50 on all quizzes needed to make 5. All quizzes are open book, open notes, calculator okay. Students who enter the class late will have quiz grades adjusted according to how many weeks were taken.

The final exam is for 2 hours and will have 20 questions – similar scoring system. Students missing the final exam will be given a grade of 50.

Homework is checked 5/21 through 6/4 and graded 100% if attempted or 0% if not attempted. An extra credit problem sheet with 5 problems will be passed out before spring break and due on right after spring break. It's optional and each right answer adds 5 extra points to quiz total.

Breaks: 10 minute break at 5:20.

Standards of student conduct: according to the West L.A. College schedule

Other: plagiarism is prohibited, cell phones and pagers should be off or set to vibrate, calculators okay.

Advice

Write clearly and put your name on quizzes.

Do the homework as scheduled to get maximum benefit when it's answered and explained.

Additional practice is always good – such as odd-number questions and computer help.

Try the extra credit.

Prepare a note folder for quizzes.

Have homework ready for checking near end of semester.

Topics Covered

Real numbers -variable expressions - solving equations and inequalities – applications – graphing – laws of exponents – polynomials – factoring – quadratic equations

About Mr. Stillson

Masters in mathematics and MBA

20 years of teaching experience – college and secondary school

27 years of business world experience

Author of puzzle and books and theater musicals – see stillsonworks.com

Homework Assignment Sheet – Math 123A

Due date	Section number and questions (even number questions will be reviewed)
2/12	1.1: 40-46, 64-66, 86-92
2/17	1.2: 28-32 1.3: 24-28 1.5: 38,42, 62-66 1.6: 68-72
2/19	1.7: 46-50, 66-72 1.8: 68-76
2/26	2.1: 22-30, 54-56 2.2: 30-36 2.3: 10-22
3/3	2.3: 36-50, 56
3/5	2.8: 38 – 56 solve only
3/12	2.4: 14-22 2.5: 40-46
3/17	2.6: 30-38, 44-54, 102-106
3/19	2.7: 18-30, 46-50
3/26	3.2: 14-20, 38-50
3/28	3.3: 28-38, 42-46 3.4: 40-42, 52-58, 66-70
4/16	4.1: 26-32, 44-52 4.2: 20-26, 36-42 4.3: 14-20, 26-34
4/21	4.4: 74-78 4.5: 16-22, 30-34, 42-54
4/23	4.6: 24 – 40 4.7: 8-12, 54 – 60, 78
4/30	5.1: 34 – 52, 70-76 5.2: 26-32, 54 - 58
5/2	5.3: 24 - 36
5/4	5.4: 8-18, 58 - 60
5/11	5.5: 24 – 42
5/16	5.5: 62 – 72 5.6: 8, 10
5/18	5.6: 18, 20, 26, 28

IT IS UP THE STUDENT WHO WISHES TO ADD OR DROP THIS COURSE TO DO IT ON A TIMELY BASIS.