



**Division:** Mathematics  
**Course name:** Math 123A: Beginning-Algebra  
**Sections:** 4477 / **Semester:** Spring 2015

**Instructor Name:** H. Feiner

**School Website:** [www.wlac.edu](http://www.wlac.edu)

**Class Hours:** MW  
 4:30 a.m. – 6:35 a.m.

**Address:** 9000 Overland Ave., Culver City, CA 90230  
**Location:** MSA 106 (may change)

**Office Hours:** MuWTh  
 2:30-4:15 P.M.

**Instructor E-mail:** [FeinerH@wla.edu](mailto:FeinerH@wla.edu)  
**Office Location:** MSB 219

## Welcome

This semester, you will work to develop your algebraic thinking skills. The goal is for you acquire the basic skills needed to succeed in subsequent technical classes and become more confident. The skills you learn here will help you succeed both in and out of class. However, your education is ultimately YOUR responsibility. YOU determine your level of success. Successful college students are self-motivated. Successful college students understand the importance of studying the material, coming to class prepared and practicing skills learned. YOU CAN DO IT and I'm here to help. Work with me, even when my method is different from what you learned before. Reconcile my presentation with what you think you remember. I try to teach you understanding, not just blind memorization of rules. 😊

## Course Description:

First of three modules for Math 123 covering elementary algebra topics such as properties and operations with real numbers, addition, subtraction, multiplication of algebraic expressions, solution of linear equations and inequalities. Solution of word problems involving linear equations and inequalities.

This course is designed to give students an understanding of and solidification of the basics of algebra. To attain this mastery, students must have a genuine desire to combat arithmetic deficiencies. Students are on the first floor of their technical endeavor. If students think that algebra is irrelevant to their course of study, remember that half the jobs in the future have not yet materialized. We live in a technical society. If you are just out of high school, twenty years from now, when you have more responsibilities and less time, you may regret that you were not serious in mastering algebra basics. This course is not UC/CSU transferable.

## Required Texts

The textbook. Is "Beginning and Intermediate Algebra" 5/e by Margaret Lial, John Hornsby and Terry McGinnis,

Textbook ISBN-: 9780321715425

You are expected to do homework from the first day on. Lacking Internet access is no excuse. Computers are available in the HLCR (library, first floor).

Having no book yet is no excuse either. You can do substitute homework online as follows:

Log into <http://www.interactmath.com/>

Enter

Choose a book > (scroll down) **Lial: Beginning & Intermediate Algebra, 5e**

Submit

Chapter Contents opens. Click on chapter 1 and expand (click on the plus sign).

Click on section 1 “[The](#) Real Number System” Select question 1. Choose the proper answer and check it.

Then click on circle 2, etc. Exercise all the questions,

When finished, click on Close.

A summary is shown with green checkmarks and/or red Xs. Print this page so that you have proof of having

done homework. Put the summary in your homework notebook.

### Recommended Materials

A scientific calculator, to be used sparingly. This is no substitute for having memorized the addition and multiplication of simple integers.

My book at [http://resources.wlac.edu/userfiles/feinerh/Book\\_1\\_2015.pdf](http://resources.wlac.edu/userfiles/feinerh/Book_1_2015.pdf)

### Required Materials

- One notebook for class notes
- #2 pencils or pens, and an eraser
- and one for homework.

### Course Objectives: (use COR / ECD approved objectives)

Add, subtract, multiply and divide integers, rational and irrational numbers.

Translate English mathematical sentences into algebraic expressions

Add, subtract, multiply and divide algebraic expressions

Add, subtract, multiply and divide algebraic expressions containing exponents

Demonstrate the use of scientific notation when multiplying and dividing real numbers

Solve a variety of first degree equations and inequalities. Solve a variety of word problems involving first degree equations and inequalities

Compute the slope of a straight line.

Draw graphs of straight lines and inequalities

Solve systems of equations in two variables by graphing.

Determine the degree of a polynomial.

Add, subtract, multiply and divide polynomials

Find the Greatest common factor (GCF) of several algebraic expressions. Factor a variety of polynomials by use of the GCF, difference of perfect squares and trinomials techniques.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to . . .

- A. Identify and restate an author’s thesis or main idea, whether it is stated or implied, and identify an author’s main support points and organizing features.
- B. Evaluate the quality and reliability of support.
- C. Explain the author’s tone and how it functions in the text.
- D. Recognize connections between two or more authors’ ideas.
- E. Demonstrate mastery of subject/verb agreement and other common grammar and punctuation errors including: subject/verb agreement, past participle and illogical shifts in verb tense, punctuation (comma, semi-colon, and apostrophe), pronoun agreement, case, and reference.
- F. Compose essays that respond effectively to a topic based on one or more assigned readings.

- G. Prepare essays of 500-750 words that include clearly stated thesis statements and detailed support.
- H. Assemble essays that have clearly organized introductions, bodies and conclusions, and develop well-supported arguments.
- I. Employ vocabulary specific to convey intended ideas, as well as references to one's own experiences, ideas and observations.
- J. Differentiate rhetorical features such as compare-contrast, definition, description and argument, and analyze effective arguments.
- K. Employ MLA style and revise writing for content and mechanics.
- L. What campus resources can promote academic success and facilitate transfer to four-year colleges and universities.

### Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)

- Perform basic operations on rational numbers and polynomials, including correct use of order of operations.
- Use appropriate techniques to solve linear and factorable quadratic equations and linear inequalities.
- Write, 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 (2) above
- Locate and utilize supplemental resources online and in textbooks

### Course Requirements and assignment guidelines

**If you don't have internet access at home, to get started on homework because you do not have a book, there are computer labs on campus.**

#### Quizzes

Quizzes will be given regularly to ensure that you are keeping up with the readings, homework, and attending class. Missed quizzes cannot be made up, even if you arrive late to class. Any extra credit points given to the class will not be given to a student who misses three unexcused absences or six instances of tardiness. An excuse needs to be substantiated in writing.

#### **Other assignments, as listed below, will occur in class and serve to reinforce learning:**

- Homework. Collect only homework in your notebook for homework. Do every other odd-numbered problem in the sections we cover in class. Bring to class daily. Turn in before a scheduled test. Show the chapter and section number on each odd-numbered page. Show your reasoning/work unless the problem is trivial. Box in your answers. No late homework.
- Exams (no exam will be dropped)
- Final
- Bring your textbook and supplies to class every time.

#### **Late Assignments**

No credit.

## Grading

Assignment Category	# of Assign.	Points Per Assignment	Total Points	% of Total Grade
Quizzes	Approximately 25	2	50	Extra credit
Tests	5	100	500	59%
Final	1	300	300	35%
Homework	5	10	50	6%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>100%</b>
766 – 900 (90%) = A	681 - 765 (80%) = B	596 –680 (70%) = C	510 - 595 (60%) = D	509 and below = F

## Class Policies

### Attendance

Because class discussions are an integral part of this course, attendance is mandatory. Up to 3 absences are allowed. After that, you could be dropped. Students are expected to attend every class meeting, to arrive on time and stay throughout the class period. **Excessive absenteeism, as well as walking in and out of class, will lower your grade through omission of extra credit.** 3 tardies = 1 absence. Students may be dropped from class for excessive tardiness, or for failure to attend class the first day.

### Walking In and Out of Class

When you arrive to class, make sure you have used the restroom, had a chance to eat, check your messages, etc. Walking in and out is rude and disruptive. If you need to leave early, or have some other problem, you need to notify me in advance. **Any student who makes a habit of walking in and out of class may be asked to leave.**

### Preparedness

You are expected to arrive on time. You will come to each class session prepared. You will have your book, notebooks, pens/pencils, any work that is due, and you will be prepared to discuss all past assignments.

### Cell Phones, iPods, etc.

**Turn them off and put them away when class begins!** Although it may not seem possible, you can survive without talking and texting on your cell phone, or listening to your iPod, for a little over an hour. Talking and texting on cell phones not only distract you, but they are a distraction for me and your peers. Distractions interrupt/disrupt the class and I will not tolerate interruptions. **You will be asked to leave if this occurs.**

### Contacting Me

E-mail is the best and quickest way to contact me. **If you have a problem, do not let it snowball. Contact me immediately.** Students are expected to ask questions and obtain help from instructor via email and/or during office hours.

**For more information refer to the attached link:**

[http://www.wlac.edu/academics/pdf/WLAC\\_12-14Catalog\\_Policies.pdf](http://www.wlac.edu/academics/pdf/WLAC_12-14Catalog_Policies.pdf)

## College Policies:

### Academic Integrity (Plagiarism)

In accordance with code 9803.28, **academic dishonesty is prohibited and will not be tolerated in this class.** Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, the following actions: cheating on an exam, plagiarism, working together on an assignment, paper or project when the instructor has specifically stated students should not do so, submitting the same term paper to more than one instructor, or allowing another individual to assume one's identity for the purpose of enhancing one's grade. Academic dishonesty of any type, such as cheating or knowingly furnishing false information, by a student provides grounds for disciplinary action by the instructor or college. In written work, no material may be copied from another without proper quotation marks, footnotes, or appropriate documentation.

- **Plagiarism (cheating during an exam) will result in a zero for the assignment, possible dismissal from the class and disciplinary action from the college.**

### Student Conduct

According to code 9803.15, disruption of classes or college activities is prohibited and will not be tolerated. Refer to the catalog and the Standards of Student Conduct in the Schedule of Classes for more information.

### Recording Devices

State law in California prohibits the use of any electronic listening or recording device in a classroom without prior consent of the instructor and college administration. Any student who needs to use electronic aids must secure the consent of the instructor. If the instructor agrees to the request, a notice of consent must be forwarded to the Vice President of Academic Affairs for approval (WLAC College Catalog).

**For more information refer to the attached link:**

[http://www.wlac.edu/academics/pdf/WLAC\\_12-14Catalog\\_Policies.pdf](http://www.wlac.edu/academics/pdf/WLAC_12-14Catalog_Policies.pdf)

## Campus Resources

As stated earlier in this syllabus, **if you are having problems, don't let them snowball.** Come and talk with me and check out some of the campus resources available to you.

### Office of Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S)

Student Services Building (SSB) 320 | (310) 287-4450.

West Los Angeles College recognizes and welcomes its responsibility to provide an equal educational opportunity to all disabled individuals. The Office of Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSP&S) has been established to provide support services for all verified disabled students pursuing a college education. DSP&S students may qualify for: priority registration, registration assistance, special parking permits, sign language interpreters and assistive technology (WLAC College Catalog).

### Instructional Support (Tutoring) & Learning Skills Center

Heldman Learning Resources Center (HLRC) | (310) 287-4486

Improve your reading, language, vocabulary, spelling, math fundamentals and chemistry knowledge with convenient, self-paced computer-aided courses in the Learning Skills Center. Increase your knowledge and learning success: sign up for tutoring in various college subjects (WLAC College Catalog).

### Library Services

Heldman Learning Resources Center (HLRC) | (310) 287-4269 & (310) 287-4486

The WLAC Library provides instruction on how to use the online catalog, periodical and research databases. In addition to a large collection of books, periodicals and videos the WLAC Library has course textbooks which students may use while in the Library. Web access is available in LIRL as well as meeting rooms. The upper floors provide a beautiful view ideal for study (WLAC College Catalog).

**For more information refer to attached link:**

[http://www.wlac.edu/academics/pdf/WLAC\\_12-14Catalog\\_Policies.pdf](http://www.wlac.edu/academics/pdf/WLAC_12-14Catalog_Policies.pdf)

**Math 115 Class Schedule – Spring 2015**

**8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.**

**NOTE: This syllabus and class schedule is subject to change if circumstances warrant it (e.g. student performance, etc.). Expect revisions and divergences.**

Tentative schedule:

Math 123A S15	
M 2/09: 1.1 Fractions => EOO 1-91, 99, 105 M 2/09: 1.2 Exponents, Order of Operations, and Inequality => EOO 1-96,	W 2/11: 1.3 Variables, Expressions, and Equations => EOO 1 - 80 W 2/11: 1.4 Real Numbers and the Number Line => 9 – 76
M 2/16: 1.5 Adding and Subtracting Real Numbers => EOO 1—106, 111, 123 M 2/16: 1.6 Multiplying and Dividing Real Numbers. => Odd 1-80	W 2/18: 1.6 Summary Exercises => odd 81-132 W 2/18: 1.7 Properties of Real Numbers => EOO 1 - 94
M 2/23: 1.8 Simplifying Expressions => Odd 42 - 86 M 2/23: Chapter 1 test (on line)	W 2/25 : <b>Test 1</b>
M 3/02: 2.1 The Addition Property of Equality => EOO 1 - 78 M 3/02: 2.2 The Multiplication Property of Equality => EOO 1 - 76	W 3/04: 2.3 More on Solving Linear Equations => EOO 1 - 72 W 3/04: 2.4 An Introduction to Linear Equations => 2, 5, 9, 13, 23, 37
M 3/09: 2.5 Formulas and Additional Applications from Geometry => 5-12, 15, 17, 23, 25, 29, 43, 49, ODD 67 - 90 M 3/09: 2.6 Ratio, Proportion, and Percent => 1, 3, 5, 7, 23, 27, 29, 35, 39, 51, 59, EOO 75-106	W 3/11: 2.7 Further Applications of Linear Equations => 7, 17, 21, 25, 29, 35, 43, 53 W 3/11: 2.8 Solving Linear Inequalities. => EOO 5-58, 77, EOO 81-104
M 3/16: Chapter 2 test (on line)	W 3/18: <b>Test 2</b>
M 3/23: 3.1 Linear Equations in two Variables; the Rectangular Coordinate System. => EOO 5-74 M 3/23: 3.2 Graphing Linear Equations in two Variables. => EOO 1-54, 71	W 3/25: 3.3 The Slope of a Line => EOO 1-70 W 3/25: 3.4 => Writing and Graphing Equations of Lines EOO 1 - 80
M 3/30: Chapter 3 test (on line)	W 4/01: <b>Test 3</b>
M 4/06: No classes	W 4/08: No classes
M :4/13: 4.1 The Product Rule and the Power Rule for Exponents. => OO 1 – 94 M :4/13: 4.2 Integer Exponents and the Quotient Rule. => EOO 1 - 80	W 4/15: : 4.3 An Application of Exponents: Scientific Notation. => EOO 1 - 62 W 4/15: <b>4.4 Adding and Subtracting Polynomials; Graphing simple Polynomials =&gt; EOO 1-70</b>
M 4/20: 4.5 Multiplying Polynomials. => EOO 1-94 M 4/20: 4.6 Special Polynomials => EOO 1-60	W 4/22: 4.7 Dividing Polynomials => EOO 1-38, EOO 52-76
M 4/27: <b>Test 4</b>	W 4/29: 5.1 The Greatest Common Factor;

	Factoring by Grouping.=> EOO 1-90 W 4/29: 5.3 (More on) Factoring Trinomials (study before 5,2) => EOO 1 -46
M 5/04: 5.2 Factoring Trinomials. => EOO 1-68 M 5/04: 5.3 (continued) => EOO 47 - 98	W 5/06: 5.4 Special Factoring Techniques => 7 - 94 W 5/06: 5.5 Solving Quadratic Equations by Factoring => 6-80
M 5/11: 5.6 Applications of Quadratic <u>Functions</u> => 7, 13 M 5/11: Chapter 5 test (on line	W 5/13: <b>Test 5</b>
M 5/18: Cumulative Review Exercises page 354 (All the problems)	W 5/20: Review
M 5/25: No classes	W 5/27: Review
M 6/01: Final ?	W 6/03: