

## WELCOME TO

**Math 112 (#1469) Spring 2014    MW 1:00 - 2:25 pm**  
**PRE-ALGEBRA (3 units)    Classroom GC 470**

*With a special welcome to students new to West LA College or who are returning after a long time away from school!*

*This course bridges the gap between arithmetic and algebra. It reviews arithmetic and introduces concepts of algebra including signed numbers, variables, exponents, mathematical sentences and linear equations.*

*Math 112 proceeds quite fast. It assumes that most students have some familiarity with the material and mainly need to review and practice it. Some students will do better to take Math 110 (5 units) which covers much the same material at a more leisurely pace.*

**Prerequisite:** Mathematics 105 with a grade of "C" or better, or placement through the WLAC Assessment process.

*Please note that the prerequisite skills for this class include adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing whole numbers, fractions, and decimals. We will review this material as we extend these skills to signed numbers, but if your arithmetic skills are rusty, you might want to sign up for LSK 10A or make another plan to "brush up" early in the semester.*

**Instructor:** Dr. Bonnie Blustein 310-287-4217    blusteb@wlac.edu



**Office Hours:** For extra help or a chat, the best time to stop by my office (MSB 205) is on Wednesdays, 2:45 - 4 pm, but you may come any afternoon to see if I'm free, or email me to set up an appointment. You can also find me on Mondays, 8:00 - 10:50 am in SC 105, and 11:10 am - 12:25 pm in MSA 009.



**Textbook:** Prealgebra, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, by Lial and Hestwood.

(ISBN- 9780321266620 or 0321266625)

*The Bookstore has rental copies for under \$8 for the semester. You need a credit or debit card to rent the book. Or buy it used online at about the same cost. We will study chapters 1-5 in this course and parts of chapters 6-7 and 9. If you get a different edition, you may need to make copies of the exercise pages.*

**Free tutoring** is available in the Learning Resource Center ("Library"). Please use it! You may also use the Math study room (MSB 217) where an instructor is often accessible.

**Students with disabilities** should contact Disabled Students Programs and Services located in SSB 320 (310-287-4450) immediately to arrange accommodations. The instructor will do everything possible to comply with ADA and all other mandates, and to assist you.

**Most of us are dealing with a lot** besides class: job (or joblessness), family problems, child care, health or housing issues, and many 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 help include **Workforce Development, TRIO-SSS, EOP&S, Counseling, the Veterans' Office, and DSPS**. Let me know what you need, and I will try to point you in the right direction.

The LA County hotline is **211** - it refers you to publicly available services.



### Math 112 Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

1. Solve elementary practical applications using signed fractions, decimals and proportional reasoning.
2. Construct and use variable representations in abstract and applied contexts.

## IMPORTANT DATES:

**FIRST DAY OF CLASS: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10**

Last day to add a class, or to drop without fee and without W: Friday, February 21

Last day to drop with W: Friday, May 9

Student Poster Showcase: Thursday, May 15

Final Exam: Monday, June 9, 1:45 - 3:45 p.m.

## HOW TO SUCCEED IN MATH 112:

**Do a lot of math problems and make sure that your answers are correct!**

Math is not a “spectator sport.” Solving problems outside of class is where you learn the most. Most students will need to spend six hours or more each week, outside of class, practicing math.

- Homework is due every Wednesday at the start of class.
- There will be time for questions at the start of class. Also, use office hours!
- Form study groups! If you meet in the Library, you may be able to get a tutor to join you.
- Keep all of your work in an organized fashion and use it to study for tests.



Begin each study session by reviewing your class notes and the text. Then do the assigned practice problems. Check to make sure your answers are correct. If not, find the mistake. Get help if you need it.

It's also a good idea to preview the material for the next class, either in the text OR by watching an online video (try YouTube).

**Materials:** Please bring your math notebook (with graph paper), pencils, a calculator (if you have one) and the textbook to class each day. Calculators may not be allowed on the final exam.

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.

**Attendance:** Please be in class on time every day, stay to the end, and participate in all class activities. College policy is that an instructor may drop a student who has missed more than six hours of class. If you have excessive absences (for any reason) AND you are not passing, you may be dropped without notice.

If you miss a test, you MUST call or email me ASAP to let me know why, and when you can take a make-up. If you miss two or more days in a row, please let me know why.

If you can't complete the class, it is YOUR responsibility to drop the class on or before Friday, May 9, 2014. LET'S TALK IF YOU ARE THINKING ABOUT DROPPING THE CLASS and try to make a plan for you to succeed.

**“Did I miss anything?”** If you weren't in class, of course you did! The schedule in this packet tells you what we're working on each day. If you miss a class, look for an instructional video on YouTube or read the text, and try the homework problems. Consult a tutor or use the instructor's office hours to get help.

## R E S P E C T: Yourself, Classmates, Instructor

- Please practice positive behavior (cooperation, civility, helpfulness, constructive engagement)
- Avoid disruptive behavior (side conversations, eating/drinking in class, texting, listening to music, surfing the net, wandering in and out of the room, coming late or leaving early without an urgent reason, etc.). **You may not be aware of how annoying this may be to some of your classmates who are trying to concentrate.**
- Maintain the highest standards of academic honesty. Collaboration is encouraged on most homework and classwork. However, you may NOT give or receive help on tests and you may not turn in someone else's work as your own. You are expected to behave honorably at all times.



*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 information see the WLAC Catalogue and Schedule of Classes.*

# Evaluation/Grading

All class activities and homework should help you achieve the course **Student Learning Outcomes** at a level that prepares you for success in Algebra and in other situations requiring math skills. I am confident that you can succeed, as long as you have enough time for the work. I am here to help you do that. “Grades” and “points” are feedback on your progress.



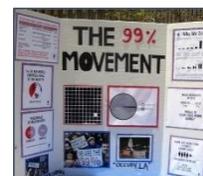
Ideally, education would be very different from today’s schooling and there would be no points or tests or grades. But since we are still struggling for an ideal society, I will have to assign you a grade in June, based on the rubric described below.

## In-Class Tests (3 tests @ 100 points each) - 50% of grade

These will mainly be “constructed-response” (show all work) in-class exercises. They are NOT designed to impose time pressure. Make-ups will only be given if there is a valid, documented excuse and if requested promptly.

**In-class tests (except for the final exam) are scheduled for WEDNESDAYS. No test scores will be dropped.**

**(OPTIONAL EXTRA CREDIT):** You may choose to create a poster for the Student Poster Showcase for up to 25 extra-credit points. Details in class.



## Homework (8 packets @ 15 points each) - 20% of grade.

Problems for each section will be assigned in class. The schedule shows due-dates for the homework for each chapter. You are encouraged to work together or get help on homework, and I expect you to turn in accurate, complete work. You **MUST SHOW ALL WORK** in order to get any credit on homework. Instructions on separate page.

## Final Exam (180 points) - 30% of grade

This will be a two-hour cumulative test during the regularly scheduled final-exam period that covers all the material we have studied and focuses on the Student Learning Outcomes for the course.

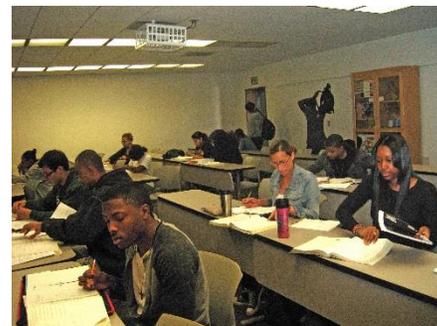
**Grades:** “Incomplete” grades are extremely rare and may only be considered if a student is passing the class with a C or better on November 15 **and** is unable, due to an emergency, to complete the course on time. Otherwise, you must *withdraw* by Friday, November 15, 2013.

The **grading scale** will be no stricter than:

90-100% A (540 - 600 points)	80-89% B (480 - 539 points)	70-79% C (420 - 479 points)
55-69% D (330-419 points)	under 55% F (0 - 329 points)	

If your score on the final or your weighted test average is 70% or higher, then you will pass the class as long as you have been attending regularly and turning in tests and most homework.

Note, however, that a student is much less likely to pass the next course in a sequence after receiving a C in the pre-requisite course than if s/he had received an A or B. That is, a C is NOT “good enough.”



# SCHEDULE AND HOMEWORK PART I

(Instructor will change if necessary)

EOO means "Every OTHER odd" problem (for example, 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, ...)

Wk #		Monday	Wednesday
1	Feb. 10-13	1.1 #37-46 all 1.2 #1-43 odds, 45-48 all Ch. 1 Review #1-17 odds	1.3 #1-53 EOO, 55-66 all, 67-75 odds 1.4 #1-45 EOO, 47-56 all 1.5 #1-25 EOO, 27-40 all, 41-53 odds, 55-62 all Ch. 1 Review # 19-51 odds, 52-55 all
2	Feb. 17-20	<b>PRESIDENTS' DAY HOLIDAY</b>	1.6 #1-45 EOO, 499-62 all, 65-69 odds, 71-76 all 1.7 #1-43 odds, 51-69 all, 71-74 all Ch. 1 Review #57-77 odds, 78
3	Feb. 24-27	1.8 #1-81 EOO Summary Exercises (pp. 69-70) #1-53 odds Ch. 1 review #79-91 odds, 93-106 all	<b>Chapter 1 homework due</b> 2.1 #1-11 odds, 13-20 all, 21-23 odds, 25-30 all, 33-49 EOO, 55-60 all 2.2 #1-73 EOO, 77-82 all, 83-87 odds
4	March 3-6	2.3 #1-57 EOO, 59-70 all 2.4 #1-45 EOO, 47-58 all Ch. 2 Review #1-13 all	2.5 #1-51 odds Ch. 2 review #14-35 all
5	Mar. 10-13	3.1-3.2 (in class) Ch. 1 "Test" pp. 81-82 Ch. 2 "Test" pp. 145-146	<b>TEST 1 (ch. 1 -2)</b> <b>Chapter 2 homework due</b> 3.1 # 1-49 odds, 51-54 all 3.2 # 1-39 odds, 41-54 all
6	Mar. 17-20	3.3 #1-46 all Ch. 3 Review #1-13	3.4 #1-22 all Ch. 3 Review #14-26
7	Mar. 24-27	5.1 #1-45 EOO, 47-57 odds, 59-70 all, 71-75 odds 5.2 #1-17 odds, 19-30 all, 31-39 odds, 41-44 all Ch. 3 "Cumulative Review" #1-38 all	<b>Chapter 3 homework due</b> 5.3 #1-19 odds, 21-26 all, 27-39 odds, 41-67 all 5.4 #1-19 odds, 21-22, 23-27 odds, 31-46 all, 51-60 all Ch. 5 Review #1-29 odds
8	Mar. 31 – Apr. 3	<b>CHAVEZ DAY HOLIDAY</b> 	5.5 #1-23 odds, 25-50 all, 51-57 odd, 59-60, 63-66 5.9 #1-21 EOO, 23-28 all Summary Exercises on Decimals #1-31 all, 34-36
	April 7-10	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	

## SCHEDULE AND HOMEWORK PART II

(Instructor will change if necessary)

EOO means “Every OTHER odd” problem (for example, 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, ...)

Wk		Monday	Wednesday
9	April 14-17	4.1-4.2, 5.6 (in class) Ch. 3 “Test” pp. 193-194 (all) Ch. 5 Review #33-53 odds, 85-105 odds Ch. 5 “Test” pp. 415-416 #1-20	<b>TEST 2 (Ch. 3, 5)</b> Chapter 5 homework due 4.1 #1-33 EOO, 35-40 all, 41-49 odds, 63-99 EOO 4.2 #3-37 EOO, 41-47 all, 49-71 odds 5.6 #1-23 odds, 25-28 all, 29-43 odds, 45-52 all, 53-63 odds, 65-68 all
10	April 21-24	4.3 #1-23 odds, 25-28, 31-47 odds, 49-68 all 4.4 #1-29 odds, 33-54 all	4.5 #1-35 EOO, 37-39 odds, 41-54 all, 55-59 all 4.6 #1-17 odds, 19-20, 21-33 odds, 35-38, 39-49 odds Summary Exercises on Fractions, p. 261 #1-24 all
11	Apr. 28 -May 1	4.7 #1-23 odds, 25-40 all 4.8 #1-31 odds, 33-34 Summary Exercises on Fractions, p. 262 #25-32 all	Chapter 4 homework due. 6.1 #1-43 odds, 45-51 all 6.2 #1-29 odds, 32-42 all Ch. 5 review #55-61 odds, 72-76
12	May 5-8	6.3 #1-25 odds, 27-28, 29-43 odds, 47-54 all Summary Exercises on Ratios, Rates, and Proportions, pp. 451-452, #1-24 all	6.4 #1-42 all Ch. 6 Review #1-35 odds, 36-42 all
13	May 12-15	7.1 #1-61 EOO, 65-72 all, 73-93 odds, 95-98 all, 101-102, 103-118 all 7.2 #1-28 all	Chapter 6 homework due 7.3 #1-47 odds, 49-50 7.4 #1-27 odds Summary exercises on percent #1-23 all
14	May 19 - 22	7.5 (in class) 7.4 #2-28 evens Ch. 4 “Test” 1-32 all Ch. 6 “Test” #1-12 all	<b>TEST 3 (chapter 4, 6, 7.1-7.4)</b> 7.5 #1-49 odds, 53-56 all Ch. 4 Cumulative Review #1-34 all Ch. 5 Cumulative Review #1-34 all
15	May 26-29	<b>MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY</b>	Chapter 7 homework due 9.4 #1-12 all Ch. 9 Review #1-31 odds, 38-39 Ch. 6 Cumulative Rev. #1-23 all, 26-33 all
	June 2-5	9.5 #1-27 odds Ch. 9 Cumulative Review #1-3, 5-43 all, 54-60 all	(no class – finals week) Ch. 7 Review #1-59 odds Ch. 7 Cumulative Review #1-47 all, 54-64 all Ch. 10 Cum. Review #1-20, 23-24, 32-42 all
		<b>FINAL EXAM Monday, June 9, 1:45 – 3:45 p.m.</b> <b>BRING SCANTRON AND PENCILS</b> (Cumulative – all chapters and sections covered during the semester) Chapter 9 and REVIEW homework due.	

