Mathematics Department - MA 998 Basic Mathematics

F1).00

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Course Syllabus - Fall 2000, Day Instructor: Thomas Sp#ing, SM

Objectives:

In general: the student will be prepared for Beginning Algebra.

The student will feel more comfortable and confident when doing math.

The student can perform the four operations on integers.

The student can perform the four operations on rational numbers.

The student can perform the four operations on polynomials.

The student will be able to multiply expressions with natural number exponents.

The student will be able to divide expressions with natural number exponents.

The student will be able to graph functions with paper and pencil.

The student will be able to graph functions with a calculator.

The student will be able to detect patterns in integers.

The student will be able to solve linear equations.

Quiz: Every Thursday. Will cover the material since the

last quiz. Duration: 20 minutes.

Test: Last Tuesday of each month. Will cover the

material since the last test. Duration: 50

minutes.

Home work: Given every day. Due at the next class.

Journal: I will provide you with a weekly journal that will

ask you to reflect on mathematical problems and attitudes toward math. They are due every Tuesday.

Writing must be done using good English sentences.

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Late work: Penalty of ten points for each calendar day tardy

for homeworks, quizzes and tests.

<u>Calculator</u>: Every student must have the use of a graphing

calculator. I can lend you such a calculator

provided you sign a contract making you liable for its cost (\$109). The calculator can be used at any

time unless I specify otherwise.

Grade: Your grade is computed by averaging your mean

scores on quizzes, tests, journals and homeworks and

the grade on your final exam.

Assistance: I am willing, even eager, to be of assistance to

you by working one on one. You have only to ask

for it. I am in my office nearly all day on

Tuesday and Thursday. I will be in and out on the other days. We can make appointments for those

other days also.

Math Lab: Will be available by about the week of 11

September. Just drop in. It is next to my office.

<u>Learning Center</u>: In the ground floor of Eiben Hall. You

must make and keep an appointment.

Walter Paddington:

Walter's mission in life is to witness to such attitudes as:

- there is more to life than mathematics;
- success is more than high grades;
- each of us is unconditionally loved.

Walter is available for consultation at any time. Consultation usually takes place through hugging and holding.