

## ***MA 09801 Syllabus and Course Expectations***

**Text:** "PreAlgebra" by McKeage. Fourth Edition

**Instructor:** Bro. Thomas Spring, SM

**Mission:** Through collaborative learning to give the student experience of working with persons who are diverse in possibly several aspects.

**Objective:** To prepare the student to: add, subtract and multiply polynomials; solve linear equations; graph straight lines; multiply expressions with integral exponents; simplify, add and subtract square roots; perform the four operations with rational expressions whose numerators and denominators are monomials.

**Assignments:** Assignments will be given each class day. They are due at the next meeting of the class. Late assignments will be penalized ten percent per calendar day.

**Quizzes:** A quiz will be given at each meeting of the class. It will be based on the material in the assignment that is due the same day. Missed quizzes may be made up but they will be penalized ten percent each calendar day they are late.

**Participation:** I expect you to work together, especially on the Reading Companions. Attendance at class meetings is basic to this expectation.

**Calculators:** You may use a calculator in class only when I explicitly invite you to do so.

**Tests:** There will be a test after each chapter of the text. It will be taken cooperatively in your small group.

**Final:** Those who elect and successfully complete the SHINE Service Learning option will be exempt from a Final Exam. For those who are not exempt, the Final will be on Wednesday, 8 May at 10:30.

**Grade:** Your grade is computed by averaging your averages in participation, assignments, quizzes, tests and the Final (or Service Learning).

**Assistance:** I am eager to be of assistance to you. I will be in my office MWF 8 to 11. For appointments at other times, contact me via the means given in the letterhead above.

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.

### *The Service Learning Option*

The Service Learning Option involves volunteering in community service and reflecting (in writing) on that experience.

The community service to be done by those electing this option is concerned with tutoring elderly immigrants who are preparing for naturalization as American citizens. They need tutoring in things pertaining to the civics of American government and in preparation for the citizenship test.

The program sponsoring this tutoring is called **SHINE:** Students Helping In Naturalization of Elders.

Tutors are required to take the SHINE training. It will be held on Saturday, 26 January from 10:00 to 12:30 and on Tuesday, 29 January from 5:00 to 6:30 and on Tuesday, 12 February from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. You must attend all sessions. All training will take place in Chaminade's Ching Conference Center.

When you complete the training, you will select a tutoring appointment that will match your schedule. The tutoring sessions are held off campus and generally in the evening. Tutoring takes place seven days a week. You must tutor for 10 weeks, one hour a week.

Each week you will complete two tasks: 1) a journal of reflection. I will supply questions for you to respond to in this journal. 2) a journal of observing and calculating. For this journal, you will make some observations in your setting and perform some calculations based on those observations. The observations will consist of counting persons or books; measuring various dimensions; keeping track of your time; and so on. Each week you will receive instructions on what to observe, how to make the measurements and what to calculate.

Students in MA 09801 who participate in the SHINE Service Learning are exempt from the MA 09801 Final Exam.