

WE'02

COURSE SYLLABUS
MATH 10360 COLLEGE ALGEBRA (3)

MW 7:05 – 9:10 pm

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY

Instructor: Dr. David Lani

Telephone: 538-3669

Textbook: Algebra for College Students, 5th edition; by Gustafson & Frisk.

Required Supplies:

11" x 8.5" lined paper (folder paper)
graph paper (4 – 5 blocks per inch)

#2 (or darker) pencils—no pens
scientific calculator—with fraction capability

Course Description: This course prepares students for precalculus mathematics. The goal is to establish a firm foundation in the fundamentals of algebra. Study focuses on: manipulating expressions (polynomials, rational expressions, and radical expressions); solving linear equations and inequalities; and solving systems of linear equations by graphing, the substitution method, and the addition method. Time permitting, other areas of study include: introduction to functions; and exponential and logarithmic functions.

Topics Covered

1. The real number system and its properties; exponents; simple linear equations; applications.
2. The rectangular coordinate system; graphs of linear equations; slope; writing equations of lines.
3. Solving systems of linear equations by graphing, substitution, and addition; solving three equations in three variables; matrices and determinants; applications.
4. Linear inequalities; absolute values; linear inequalities in two variables; systems of inequalities.
5. Polynomials; factoring; solving equations by factoring; applications.
6. Rational expressions; rational equations; applications.
7. Quadratic equations; solutions by factoring and by formula; applications.
8. Other topics as time permits.

Course Requirements:

Attendance and Participation

Students must be active participants in their learning of mathematics. They are expected to take notes on the lectures and to participate in all class activities. Students are encouraged to share their ideas, questions, or solutions with the class. Certainly, they should expect to be called upon—and be willing to respond. Sleeping or doing work from other courses are examples of behavior that is not accepted as active participation and results in a reduction of the daily score as described below. If it becomes necessary, the instructor decides whether other kinds of behavior are also unacceptable, especially if they interfere with instruction or the learning of other students.

For each class meeting, a score that is based on actual time in class and active participation is recorded. Based on time, the scores are: 100 = no more than 2 minutes missed; 80 = no more than 5 minutes missed; 60 = no more than 10 minutes missed; 0 = more than 10 minutes missed. Those minutes include time missed in coming back to class from break and/or time missed at the end of class for leaving before being dismissed as a class. In addition, a score is lowered if a student does not actively participate in the class activities for the day. The lowest (one) score is discarded, and the rest count towards the final course grade.

Homework

Assignments are due at the beginning of class; otherwise, they are late and assessed a 25% deduction. Work that is no more than one day late (next class meeting) is accepted but assessed a 25% deduction. Work that is more than one day late is not accepted, and a score of 0 is recorded. The lowest (one) score is discarded, and the rest count towards the final course grade.

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Course Requirements (continued):

Quizzes

About 30 minutes in length, quizzes are closed-book, with no notes. If a calculator is allowed, there is to be no borrowing—that is, two or more students may not use the same calculator. If that situation occurs, those students are assigned a score of 0 for the entire quiz. Missing a quiz requires official documentation explaining the absence, in order to take a make-up quiz, which could be more difficult than the original. Without such documentation, a make-up quiz is not allowed, and a score of 0 is recorded. Both quiz scores count towards the final course grade.

Midterm

The midterm exam is closed-book, with no notes. The time limit is about one hour. If a calculator is allowed, there is to be no borrowing. Missing the test requires official documentation explaining the absence, in order to take a make-up test, which is more difficult than the original. Without such documentation, a make-up test is not allowed, and a score of 0 is recorded.

Final Exam

The final exam is cumulative—it covers the entire course. It is closed-book, with no notes. A calculator is allowed on one part of the exam—as usual, borrowing is not allowed. There is no make-up for the final exam, unless valid documentation as described elsewhere is presented. In that situation, the procedure that applies to incomplete grades will be followed.

Evaluation:

<p>Here are the weights of the various components used in determining the final course grade:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Grading</u></p> <table><tr><td>Attendance & Participation</td><td>10% of grade</td></tr><tr><td>Homework</td><td>10% of grade</td></tr><tr><td>Quizzes</td><td>20% of grade</td></tr><tr><td>Midterm</td><td>25% of grade</td></tr><tr><td>Final Exam</td><td>35% of grade</td></tr></table>	Attendance & Participation	10% of grade	Homework	10% of grade	Quizzes	20% of grade	Midterm	25% of grade	Final Exam	35% of grade	<p>The letter grade for the course is determined by:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Scale</u></p> <table><tr><td>90 – 100%</td><td>A</td></tr><tr><td>80 – 89%</td><td>B</td></tr><tr><td>70 – 79%</td><td>C</td></tr><tr><td>60 – 69%</td><td>D</td></tr><tr><td>below 60%</td><td>F</td></tr></table>	90 – 100%	A	80 – 89%	B	70 – 79%	C	60 – 69%	D	below 60%	F
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>>> FINAL EXAM: Wednesday, March 20, 2002