

TEXT: Algebra for College Students, by Gustafson and Frisk.

Calculators: You may use a calculator at any time, including exams. You may wish to invest in a graphing calculator, such as a Casio or a TI (Sharp and H/P also sell them), since it would be more useful than a plain calculator. This is recommended, but not required.

Participation: You will be working in groups for some classes, and you are encouraged to do so outside of class as well. I will try to be observant about who participates and who simply sits and lets the others do all the work, and my assessment of this will be a part of your grade. If you miss a class, your participation mark for that day will be zero.

Assignments: These will be given from time to time. Some will be collected and some not. Those that are collected will be marked as "done on time," "done late," or "not done."

Quizzes: Occasional quizzes will be announced the class before they are given. There will be no make-up quizzes.

Tests: We will agree on dates for these. Suggested dates are shown in the timetable below.

Grade: Your grade will depend on your participation, your assignments, your quizzes and tests, and of course on the final exam (probably about $\frac{1}{4}$ each; I have not yet decided). Grades will **not** be competitive. You will get what you earn, and if everyone earns an A, so be it.

Assistance: You can receive assistance in the **Math Lab** in HH 20, once it is organized for the semester. No appointment needed. You can also pop in to my office and check if I am around, in order to ask any questions that come up.

The **Learning Center** will provide you with a tutor. It is located on the bottom floor of Eiben Hall. You may need to make an appointment.

Course work: The purpose of this course is to prepare you to do well in MA 110 Precalculus. This means that we will have to cover a lot of ground, in order to provide you with a firm foundation.

We will be looking at topics in at least 11 of the chapters in the text. In some cases we will move quickly, assuming that you need only a review. We will take our time on other sections. Many times we will have to look at more than one section in one class period.

A possible timetable is provided below, but we will be flexible about it. The two scheduled tests may be moved to more favorable dates, if you have too many tests on the same day.

TIMETABLE

30 Aug-1 Sep	Chapter 1	The real number system
8, 10, 13 Sep	Chapter 2	Exponents and polynomials
15,17,20,22 Sep	Chapter 3	Linear equations and inequalities
24,27,29 Sep, 1 Oct	Chapter 4	Factoring
4 Oct		Test
6, 8, 13, 15 Oct	Chapter 5	Rational Expressions
18,20,22,25 Oct	Chapter 6	Graphs, Equations, Lines
27,29 Oct, 1,3 Nov	Chapter 7	Rational exponents and radicals
5, 8, 10 Nov	Chapter 8	Quadratic equations
12 Nov		Test
15,17,19 Nov	Chapter 10	Systems of equations and inequalities
22,24,29 Nov,		
and 1,3 Dec	Chapter 12	Exponential and logarithmic functions
6, 8, 10 Dec	Chapter 14	Misc. topics

Final exam: Wed 15 December, 10:30-12:30.

Who knows? You may even come to

