

MATH 100  
ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA  
5 UNIT(S)

LOS RIOS/CRC  
SPRING 2020  
SECTION # 14640

THIS SYLLABUS WAS UPDATED ON JANUARY 23, 2020

**Instructor:** Ivan Zaigralin

ZaigraI@crc.losrios.edu  
melikamp@melikamp.com

Email is the primary and the most reliable way of contacting the instructor. Either address should work. When emailing, please always specify your real name (the same one as in the roster) and which class you are inquiring about. Emails omitting this information may fail to be processed.

**Office:** LRC 150, (916) 691-7086

- Monday and Wednesday: 12:15 – 1:15 pm and 15:45 – 16:45 pm
- Tuesday and Thursday morning: by appointment

Please let the instructor know if these hours do not work for you, and we can try to set up an appointment (allow 2 business days for reply).

**Class Meetings:** MWF 1:30 - 3:00 pm, SCI 215

**Required Materials:** *Basic Algebra with Applications*, 3rd edition, by yours truly. The students are responsible for obtaining the text (digital/online version is OK) and reading every section covered in class and/or assigned for homework.

You are required to obtain a **printed** copy of *Basic Algebra Lab Manual*, which should be available at the college book store. You are also responsible for bringing the relevant portions of the lab manual to every class meeting.

**Catalog Description:** This course includes the fundamental concepts and operations of algebra with problem solving skills emphasized throughout. Topics include: properties of real numbers, linear equations and inequalities, integer exponents, polynomials, factoring polynomials. Rational expressions and equations, radical expressions and equations, rational exponents, systems of linear equations and inequalities, the rectangular coordinate system, graphs and equations of lines, and solving quadratic equations.

**Prerequisites:** MATH 30 with a grade of “C” or better; or equivalent skills demonstrated through the assessment process.

**Methods of Instruction:** Class meetings will feature a mix of lecture, discussion, quizzes/labs, and group assignments. The instructor may assign students into teams for group assignments, and reassign teams at any time during the semester. Several in-class tests will be given.

**Attendance:** To succeed in this course, it is crucial that you attend every class session, alert and prepared to learn. Roll will be taken at the beginning of each class. If you arrive after the class has started, please enter the room quietly and get on the roster at the end of the class. If you miss more than a half of a class session for any reason, you will be considered absent for that whole session. **If you miss the total of 6% of class time or more, you may be dropped from the class** (missing one whole week will put you over 6% in most cases). These absences need not to be consecutive, and **any** class time you miss may be added to the total. Exceptions to this policy will be made **at the instructor’s discretion** for documented cases of grave illness and/or family emergency. In other words, the instructor reserves the right to drop you at any time after your unexcused absences total 6% or more, regardless of any other circumstances.

If you miss the first class meeting without notifying the instructor or the division administrator in advance, you may be dropped from the class. If you have to be removed from the first class meeting due to a discipline issue, you may be dropped from the class.

By default, only the students enrolled in this class can attend the class sessions. If you are planning on bringing a visitor, you should try to notify the instructor in advance. Exceptions will be made at the instructor's discretion on a case-by-case basis.

<https://crc.losrios.edu/admissions/enroll-in-classes/grading-policies-and-academic-regulations>

**Written Assignments:** All written assignments, including but not limited to the homework, tests, labs, and the final, should be done in **dark pencil or pen; black, dark gray, dark blue, and deep purple** are preferred. Fancy colors such as **green, red, or pink** can only be used to augment graphs and illustrations.

Once assignments are graded, the instructor will bring them to class and distribute them back to students. If you are not present on that day, then you can pick up your graded assignments during the office hours. **All written assignments except for the final exam will be securely destroyed after your class grades are submitted to the district.**

**Homework:** Homework serves as practice and will prepare you to do your best on labs and tests. About 20% of the lowest homework grades will be dropped. Homework is crucial for learning the material as well as for succeeding in this class. Doing all homework is probably the most effective way to raise your test grades. You are welcome to work in groups while solving the homework, but you must submit your own work.

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**what the homework should look like**

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**7.5, 7.6** ← assigned section(s)

your name, class, date → Simpson, Lisa

Math 100

July 4

**(7.5)** ← textbook section

15.  $1 + 2 = 3$

17.  $(2x^2)' = 4x$

**page ends here**

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**new sheet starts**

**(7.6)** ← next textbook section starts a new sheet of paper

1.  $(x + 1)^2 = x^2 + 2x + 1$

2.  $(-0.5x^{-2}y^{-1})^{-3} = -8x^6y^3$

⋮

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Homework in this class is not intended as the primary means of feedback. The students are expected to check and judge their own work by using answers, whenever the textbook provides them, and/or by discussing the homework with the instructor during the office hours. Typically, the instructor will only check a very small and somewhat random portion of the homework for accuracy.

Late homework will be accepted for 50% credit if it is less than 1 week late, and for 25% credit otherwise. Late homework will **not** be collected or accepted during class meetings. One way to submit the late homework is by bringing it to the instructor's office during the scheduled office hours.

Unless otherwise stated, all homework should be submitted on paper. If multiple sheets of paper are used, they must be stapled, clamped, or clipped together. The title page should list the homework name,

your name, and your class. Solutions to exercises should be presented in the order they are assigned. Textbook sections must start a new sheet of paper.

**Quizzes/Labs:** In-class assignments will be given during some class sessions, typically without any advance warning. **No make-up quizzes/labs will be given for any reason.** 20% or so of the lowest scores will be dropped.

**Tests:** There will be several tests. **No make-up tests will be given for any reason.** If you are not present for the test, zero will be entered as your grade for that test. If you miss a test due to a documented case of grave illness and/or family emergency, you will have an option to use your comprehensive final exam grade to replace that zero, but only **at the instructor's discretion.**

**Final:** The 2 hour comprehensive final exam will be given on the date determined by the official final exam schedule:

<https://crc.losrios.edu/admissions/academic-calendar-and-deadlines/final-exam-schedule>

The final date and time is determined by the College District before the semester starts. You must plan to be present at the final. If your schedule precludes you from being present at the final, you must inform the instructor in writing during the first two weeks of instruction. If you are not present at the final, "F" will be entered as your grade for the class.

**Grading:**

Grades versus %		Grade Breakdown	
A	90 – 100%	Tests	45%
B	80 – 89%	Homework	10%
C	70 – 79%	Labs/Quizzes	10%
D	60 – 69%	Final	35%
F	0 – 59%		

**Extra Credit:** The only ways to get extra credit in this class are:

(1) visit the instructor's office hours

(2) be first to point out a typo or an error in any of the printed materials created by your instructor

Getting more than 1% of the total class grade from extra credit is extremely rare. The instructor reserves the right to set or change the maximum allowed amount of extra credit per student, and can do so at any time during the semester.

**Getting Help:** If you have a question or a concern not addressed in this syllabus, please contact your instructor via email (allow 2 business days for reply). Moreover, the campus provides some resources to help you study:

<https://crc.losrios.edu/student-resources>

**Tutoring:** The CRC Tutoring Center provides academic support services to CRC students. The Center facilitates drop-in tutoring, study skills coaching, study groups, and more.

<https://crc.losrios.edu/student-resources/tutoring>

Additional tutors are available at the Math Center, which helps students to develop confidence and proficiency in their math skills. You must enroll in a variable unit course in order to use the Math Center.

<https://crc.losrios.edu/student-resources/tutoring/math-center-at-crc>

**Computers:** The use of computers and tablets during regular class meetings is OK as long as they are used for class work and are completely silent. While taking tests and the final, only the approved non-networked calculators and/or computers running approved software will be allowed. If in doubt, you should consult with the instructor and get your devices pre-approved prior to the test date. **Using**

**tablets or computers for anything but the current assignment in this class may result in you being removed from the classroom until the end of the session, which will count as an unexcused absence.**

**Forbidden Tech:** Spyphone/smartphone use is prohibited while the class is in session. In particular, they can never be used as calculators. Computerized watches can be used for showing current time only, and may have to be stowed away during tests. **Using the tech listed above in violation of this syllabus may result in you being removed from the classroom until the end of the session, which will count as an unexcused absence.**

**Required Tech:** A basic arithmetic calculator, also known as **4-function calculators**, with operations  $+$   $-$   $\times$   $\div$  and  $\sqrt{\quad}$ . If your calculator has any advanced mathematical functions, consult the instructor and get it pre-approved.

**Accommodations:** Disability Support Programs & Services (DSP&S) provides equal educational opportunity for students with physical, psychological, or learning disabilities. Counseling, support services, and academic accommodations are provided to students who are eligible for the program.

The Cosumnes River College Learning Disabilities Program can provide support services and academic accommodations to students who have documentation of a specific learning disability from another school or professional. In addition, Diagnostic Assessment may be available for appropriately referred students who come to the DSP&S program for an orientation appointment.

If you have a learning disability, a physical disability, or other special needs, please let the instructor know as soon as possible if you need special accommodations.

Students have the right to request reasonable modifications to college requirements, services, facilities or programs if their documented disability imposes a functional educational limitation or impedes access to such requirements, services, facilities, or programs. A student with a disability who will be requesting modification, accommodation, or access to an auxiliary aid is required and responsible for identifying himself/herself to the instructor and, if desired, to the Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSP&S office). In either event, **the student is responsible for providing appropriate documentation of his/her disability before we can accommodate.** Students who consult or request assistance from the DSP&S office regarding specific modifications, accommodations or use of auxiliary aid will be required to meet timelines and procedural requirements established by the DSP&S office.

<https://crc.losrios.edu/student-resources/support-services/disability-support-programs-and-services>

**Academic Honesty:** Any instance of plagiarism and/or cheating will result in the score of zero for that homework, quiz, or test, and will be reported to the Vice President's office.

<https://crc.losrios.edu/about-us/our-values/student-rights-and-responsibilities/plagiarism-and-cheating>

**Meta:** The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus throughout the semester. All relevant changes will be announced in class, and an updated version of the syllabus will be published online. Students are responsible for keeping up with these changes.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** This section is here for reference only. It may be useful to consult as you are preparing for the final exam. Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to

- Use increased computational skills and number sense, recognize the order of operations and properties of real numbers; include evaluating various mathematical formulas and extending operations to variable expressions and combining like terms.
  - Simplify expressions using the order of operations and basic properties of real numbers.
  - Compute with accuracy problems involving the basic operations of arithmetic (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, exponents, order of operations) on signed numbers.
  - Multiply and divide numbers expressed in scientific notation.
  - Use and evaluate formulas with more than one variable.
- Solve first degree equations, inequalities and applications.
  - Identify the types of equations including conditional equations, contradiction and identity and techniques for their solution.
  - Solve linear inequalities and write the solution in both set-builder and interval notation.
  - Apply problem solving skills to construct equations and inequalities for application problems and solve the applications by solving the equations or inequalities and appropriately interpreting the results.
- Identify and analyze linear equations, and graphs of linear equations and linear inequalities.
  - Interpret the slope of a line as a rate of change and graph a line.
  - Generate an algebraic model for data that follows linear behavior and interpret the result of this model. Applications of linear models include linear growth, linear depreciations and rates.
- Apply mathematical terminology, symbols and operations to develop and extend arithmetic operations on polynomials and to evaluate polynomial expressions.
  - Evaluate and expand polynomial expressions and expressions written in scientific notation.
  - Apply rules of exponents (including negative exponents) to simplify algebraic expressions.
  - Demonstrate proficiency in all arithmetic operations on polynomials, particularly multiplying using FOIL.
  - Use operations on polynomials to solve certain polynomial equations and applications.
- Understand the concept of prime polynomials and factoring polynomials into primes using various techniques.
  - Factor out common factors and factor by grouping.
  - Factor the difference of two squares and factor trinomials including perfect square trinomials.
  - Solve polynomial equations by factoring and using the zero factor property.
  - Think critically and abstractly by modeling an application problem using a polynomial equation to solve and interpret the result.
- Simplify, combine and evaluate rational expressions using the operations of arithmetic.
  - Multiply and divide rational expressions and incorporate factoring to simplify to lowest terms.
  - Add and subtract rational expressions using the algebraic method and least common denominator.
  - Solve rational equations by multiplying by the least common denominator.
  - Use an appropriate rational equation to model an application problem to solve and interpret the results.
- Solve systems of linear equations and systems of linear inequalities as well as their applications and effectively organize, present, and summarize the quantitative information using algebraic, numerical and graphical methods.
  - Calculate the solution to a  $2 \times 2$  system of linear equations using the methods of graphing, substitution, and elimination, and identify the types of  $2 \times 2$  systems.
  - Construct a system of linear equations for applications and solve the applications by solving the system and appropriately interpret the solution.
  - Compute the solution to a system of linear inequalities using a graph and describe the meaning of this solution.
- Demonstrate with proficiency how to use arithmetic operations on radicals and simplify radical expressions.
  - Simplify different types of radicals, rationalize denominators and combine radicals when it is appropriate.
  - Solve radical equations and evaluate radical expressions.
  - Solve applied problems using radical equations and using the Pythagorean Theorem to solve triangles and applications.
  - Verify how to extend the definition of an exponent to a rational exponent and interpret a rational exponent as a radical.
  - Use radicals to solve quadratic equations by taking roots, completing the square and using the quadratic formula and employ quadratic equations in various applications.