

**MATH 115**  
**CLASS SYLLABUS Fall 2012**

**Course:** Elementary Algebra  
Section Number 0340, MW 9:35am - 12:05pm, CMS020

**Instructor:** Ching-Chin Chen  
Office Hours: MW 9:05am-9:30am                      Office: CMS247  
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**Textbook:** Beginning and Intermediate Algebra, by Elayn Martin-Gay, Custom Edition for Los Angeles Mission College. The textbook is highly recommended as you will be using it for a whole year (115 and 125). You will only find this book at the bookstore since it's a new custom edition. If comes bundled with an access code we will use to access online assignments, including practice and sample final.

**Important Dates:** Last day to drop without a "W"-- Sep. 9, 2012  
No class: Sep. 3; Nov. 12;  
Last day to drop with a "W": Nov. 18, 2012  
Date of Final: Saturday, Dec. 10, 2012 (10:00am-12:00pm)

**Prerequisite:** Math 112 with a grade of "C" or better, or through the assessment process.

**Course Description:** This is the first course in Algebra. There will be a brief review of concepts learned in pre-algebra using more challenging illustrations and examples. Topics include the real number system, integer exponents, polynomials and factoring, rational expressions, radicals, solving different types of equations (linear, quadratic, rational and radical), linear equations and inequalities in two variables, systems of linear equations in two variables, and problem solving involving the different types of equations.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** By the end of the course, the successful student will be able to:

1. Simplify and evaluate various algebraic expressions.
2. Solve, graph, and analyze various algebraic equations and systems of equations, including utilizing them to solve application problems.

**Tutor:** Drop-in tutoring is available at the Math Center located in the      and in the Math Lab located in CMS 121(hours: 11am-8pm), and at eh Math Center located in the LRC basement of the Campus Center(hours: TBD)

**Methods of Presentation:**

Presentation of topics will be written on the board. It will include review of previous assignments and concepts by the level of difficulty as well as introduction of the new material. You need to plan on spending at 2 hour to do your homework for each hour the class meets. Please take a realistic look at your weekly schedule at the beginning of the semester, and make sure that you truly have the time available to be successful in math this semester.

**Methods of Evaluation:**

**Attendance:** Regular and punctual attendance is expected from all of us. Unlike most other courses, missing just one mathematics class will immediately place you at a disadvantage because it is difficult, if not impossible, to catch up on the missed material by yourself. You are responsible for all material presented and discussed in every class meeting.

Also, students can be dropped after a cumulative total of 10 hours of absences (every three tardies count as one-you absence); however, it is still your responsibility to drop the course, not the instructor's.

- Calculators:** Scientific calculators are required. Any kind will do the job. No graphing calculator, cell phone, IPOD, nor hand held computers are allowed during in class assessments.
- Homework:** Students enrolled in Math 115 are automatically registered in an online system called MyLabsPlus. Homework and quizzes will be assigned online through this system. The access code for MyLabsPlus will be packaged with the new textbook sold in the Mission College bookstore. The same textbook and software will be used for the Math 125 continuation course in the spring semester. Textbooks purchased online or at other bookstores may not include the access code for MyLabsPlus. Assistance in registering/purchasing the access code will be available on the first day of class. Students should work on their homework as each section is completed in class. There are due dates posted online for each HW and it is the students' responsibility to turn in the assignments by the due date. No extensions will be granted. All scores will be automatically transferred to the instructor after a student hits the submit button.  
Since the system does not grade each step of students' work, it is important that students write down their solving steps clearly on a HW notebook in order to identify the mistakes make. Instructor may require students to turn in this HW notebook as part of the HW points. Points may be deducted if work was not shown in a clear and organized manner and labeled neatly indicating the section being worked on, and the problem number.
- Classwork/Quizzes:** Classwork will be given regularly in the form of group work or individual work. Active learning is very effective, especially in a Math class. Quizzes will also be given to get you ready for upcoming exams. These will be announced and usually include 3 to 5 questions.
- Tests:** Tests are given on the following dates:\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_. Please mark these dates on your calendar now, as there are **No Make-Up Exams, unless you have documents. Also, students are not allowed to use notes during exams.**
- Final Exam:** A final exam will be given on Dec. 10 at 10am-12 pm. There are no make-ups for the final and all students must take the final exam. You may find the sample common finals from math department website.
- Grades:**                   A: 90%-100%   B: 80%-89%   C: 70%-79%   D: 60%-69%  
Final Exam: 30%;  
Exams: 50%;  
Classwork/Quizzes: 10%;  
Homework: 10%
- Cell Phones:** Please turn off your phones before coming to class. Class time is for learning and not for personal or business calls.

**Cheating:** Any form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. If caught, you may be given a zero for that particular exam or quiz. The event will be reported to the Math Department Chair who will forward the report to the VP of student services for disciplinary action which may include suspension or expulsion

**Student Conduct:**

All students should treat every person in the classroom with courtesy and respect. When you give to a class the best you have to offer, you are also giving your best to yourself.

Students are expected to adhere to all school policies, and to abide by the standards of student conduct as described in the Schedule of Classes on page 50. Any infringement upon the rights of other students in the class, such as talking or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.

**Title V and Education Code Change:**

**Significant changes to the drop policy and class repetition are now effective.**

1. Last day to drop without a “w” in the past this was the census date about the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of class. It is now the same day as the last day to add. Sep 7(in person), Sep 9(online)
2. Class repetition: Students are limited to three attempts at passing a course with a “c” or better. Any letter grade “F” or “w” counts as an attempt. And this rule is retroactive. This means for example that if a student got a “w” and a “D” in math 115 two years ago, he has one more chance to pass before he is prevented from enrolling in Math 115

**Success and Study Tips:**

1. Attend class
2. Pay attention
3. Do all homework
4. Get help
5. Keep up with all work
6. Study math everyday
7. Read the text
8. Get Organized
9. Find other students to study with
10. Strive for understanding not just remote memory

**Resources Available to Students at LA Mission College:**

1. Bookstore: (818) 364-7798
2. Counseling Department and Service: (818) 364-7655
3. Disabled Students Programs and Services: (818) 364-7732
4. Financial Aid: (818) 364-7648
5. Extended Opportunity Programs and Services: (818) 364-7645
6. Library: (818) 364-7105
7. Tutoring Services in Learning Center: (818) 364-7745
8. Tutoring Lab & Math Center: (818) 364-7811
9. STEM Program: (818) 833-3425

Math 115 Tentative Schedule			
week	date	Monday	Wednesday
1	Aug 27-Aug 29	Intro + 1.2,-1.4	1.5-1.7 & 2.1--2.2
2	Sep 03-Sep 05	Labor Day (no class)	2.3--2.6
3	Sep 10-Sep 12	2.6--2.8	Review & Ch1,2 test#1
4	Sep 17-Sep 19	3.1--3.3	3.4--3.5
5	Sep 24-Sep 26	3.6 & 4.1--4.2	4.3, 4.5, 4.6
6	Oct 01-Oct 03	4.6 ,4.7 & review	Ch3, 4 test#2 & 5.1, 5.2
7	Oct 08-Oct 10	5.3-5.4	5.5--5.6
8	Oct 15-Oct 17	5.6, 5.7 & review	Ch5 test#3 & 6.1, 6.2
9	Oct 22-Oct 24	6.3--6.4	6.4--6.5, 6.5a
10	Oct 29-Oct 31	6.6--7.1	7.2--7.3
11	Nov 05-Nov 07	7.5 & review	Ch 7 test#4 & 8.1
12	Nov 12-Nov 14	Veterans Day (no class)	8.1, 8.3
13	Nov 19-Nov 21	8.4, 8.5	8.5, 8.6
14	Nov 26-Nov 28	9.1, 9.2	9.2 & Ch 8, 9 test #5
15	Dec 03-Dec 05	Review for final exam	Review for final exam
16	10-Dec	10:00 am -- 12:00 pm	no class

Print your name \_\_\_\_\_ ID # \_\_\_\_\_ 8/27/2012

1. All students are expected to arrive on time. Late arrivals are disruptive to both the lecturer and students. We will have a short break about midway through the class period. Once you are seated, do not leave the room until the break. Such comings and goings are also disruptive. Students must turn off cell phones while in class. Students are encouraged to ask questions and make comments on the lecture material. This should be done in a courteous manner by raising one's hand and being recognized. Side conversations between students that disrupt the flow of the lecture will not be tolerated. It is the student's responsibility to manage his or her academic workload. Should a student decide to stop attending class it is his/her responsibility to drop the class. All students appearing on the grade roster will receive a grade regardless of whether they are attending classes or not.
2. **Questionable pedagogy:** The department policy does not allow for open-book/open-note or multiple choice exams in any class. Rather than helping students, this practice only sets a low expectation of the effort required to succeed and poorly prepares our students for advanced courses.
3. No food. No drink in the classroom.
4. **Title V and Education Code Change:**  
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Read #1-4 and Copy #4 on the space below the line, then sign at the end:

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