

Math 125 Fall 2012	Intermediate Algebra Instructor: Roula Dakdouk
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Section: 0351	Lecture Time: MTWTh 7:30-8:40am Location: CMS 023
Office Hours:	MW 11:50am-12:45pm, TTh 8:40-10:40am
Office Location:	CMS124, Office #136
Telephone:	(818) 833-3380
E-mail:	dakdourr@lamission.edu

**Prerequisites:**

Math 115 or Math 114 with a grade of “C” or better, or appropriate skill level demonstrated through the Math assessment process, or by permit.

**Description:**

This course will prepare you for the next college-level math class such as Statistics, College Algebra, Calculus for Business and Social Science. There will be a brief review of concepts learned in elementary algebra using more challenging illustrations and examples. New topics include: rational exponents, nonlinear and absolute value inequalities, functions and their graphs, introduction to the conic sections, solving systems of two or three variables using matrix methods, second-degree systems, and an introduction to exponential and logarithmic functions.

**Textbook:**

*Intermediate Algebra*, by Kaufmann & Schwitters, ninth edition.

**Calculators:**

Scientific calculators are required. No graphing calculator, cell phone, nor hand held computer are allowed on a quiz or test.

**Exams:**

There will be five exams. They are all free response. Students are not allowed to use notes during exams. The tentative testing schedule is given in the timeline at the end of this syllabus. The lowest test scores will be dropped.

**Homework:**

Homework will be assigned after I cover each section. It will be collected the day of the exam (it should be on my desk before the exam). You need to put in at least 2 hours working on homework problems for each hour of class. Reading the sections covered in class is your responsibility and is considered part of the homework. Sloppy assignments will not be accepted. **Homework must be neat, clear, organized and placed in a bound folder** (the thin ones with a middle section to secure 3 holed papers).

**Group Assignments & Quizzes:**

Group Assignments and Quizzes will be given every two weeks. Quizzes can be pop quizzes or I might announce beforehand. The idea is to make sure you are keeping up and not procrastinating.

**Grading:** Final grades will be based on:

- Homework 10%
- Group Assignments 5%
- Quizzes 8%
- Exams 52% (13% each)
- Final 25%

Your grade in the course is determined according to the following scale:

A: 90-100% B: 80-89% C: 70-79% D: 60-69% F: 59% and below

For borderline cases attendance, participation, and level of improvement on the final are considered.

**Tutoring:** If you have questions and/or cannot make it to office hours, or you just like to get more help, free tutoring is available at the Tutoring Lab located in CMS 121, and at the Math Center located in the LRC basement of the Campus Center. The hours of the Tutoring Lab are: M-Th 11am-8pm. The hours of the Math Center are TBD.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of the course, the successful student will be able to:

1. Solve, graph, and analyze various equations or systems of equations and inequalities.
2. Interpret, graph and analyze various functions.

**Attendance:**

Regular and punctual attendance is expected from all the students. Most ideas in math are built upon each other; therefore, it is very important to stay current. Missing just one mathematics class will immediately place you at a disadvantage because it is difficult to catch up on the missed material by yourself. You are responsible for all material presented and discussed in every class meeting. Absences of a total of 4 class meetings may result in excluding students from class. Students themselves are responsible for dropping a class they no longer attend; failure to do so may result in a grade of F.

**Withdrawals:** If you wish to drop a class, you must do so on or before November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012. You can drop the class in person through the Admissions Office or through the internet. Failure to do so may result in a grade of "F" in the class. Please take note of important dates noted below and in the tentative schedule on the last page of the syllabus.

**Cell Phones:**

Please turn off your phones before coming to class. Class time is for learning and interacting with me and your classmates, not for personal or business calls.

### **Academic Integrity:**

Cheating will not be tolerated. Cheating on any exam will be taken seriously. All parties involved will get a zero on the exam and might receive a grade of "F" for the course.

### **Miscellaneous:**

To be successful in this and any other math class, expect to spend at least two hours for every class hour. The majority of the learning that you do in college courses takes place outside of class. What you get out of this class is a function of what you put into it. Mathematics is not a spectator sport. You have to put in the work to see the results!

A new state policy in effect as of Summer 2012 limits students to **3 attempts per course**. Receiving a grade or "W" for a course counts as an attempt, **regardless of when the course was taken**. Withdrawal by September 9, 2012 (avoiding a "W") will not count as an attempt.

### **Important Dates for Fall 2012:**

Last day to add classes:	Friday, September 7
Last day to drop without a "W":	Sunday, September 9
Last day to petition for credit/no credit:	Friday, October 5
Last day to drop with a "W":	Sunday, November 18
Final Exam:	Monday, December 10 from 7:30 -9:30 AM

### **Resources Available to students at LA Mission College:**

- **Bookstore:** For hours of operation, book availability, buybacks, and other information call (818) 364-7798 or 364-7768 or visit: <http://eagleslanding.lamission.edu/>
- **Counseling Department:** For appointments and information call (818) 364-7655 or visit <https://www.lamission.edu/counseling/>
- **Disabled Students Programs and Services:** For appointments and information call (818) 364-7732 or visit <http://www.lamission.edu/dsps/>
- **Extended Opportunity Programs and Services:** For appointments and information call (818) 364-7645 or visit <http://www.lamission.edu/eops/>
- **Financial Aid:** For information and applications call (818) 364-7648 or visit <http://www.lamission.edu/financialaid/>
- **Library:** For information on library hours, resources, workshops, and other services contact (818) 364-7105 or 364-7106 or <http://www.lamission.edu/library/>
- **Tutoring Services in Learning Center:** Laboratories for Learning, Writing, Math & Science.  
Walk-in and appointment services offered. Call (818) 364-7754 or visit <http://www.lamission.edu/learningcenter/>

- **Tutoring Lab & Math Center:** Free Math tutoring, computer and internet access. Call (818) 364-7811 or visit <http://www.lamission.edu/mathcenter/>
- **STEM Program:** For those interested in pursuing a science, technology, engineering and math, please call the STEM counselor Marina Sangkavichai at (818) 833-3425 or visit <http://www.lamission.edu/stem/>

### **Success Tips:**

1. **Attend class--** Choose to attend all class periods on time and don't leave early. If you are absent on a day that a quiz is given, you lose the points for that quiz. Also, knowledge in any math class is extremely cumulative. What you miss one day will continue to hurt you throughout the rest of the course.
2. **Pay attention--** Pay attention in class, participate in class discussions, and ask questions. The instructor regularly gives away tips for exams and quizzes, so make sure you take note of them.
3. **Do all homework--** Do or attempt all homework not for the sake of just doing it, but trying to understand the concepts, learning them in the process. "Practice makes perfect" applies not only to music and sports, but also in mathematics. Be sure to schedule sufficient time to complete your assigned tasks before the next class period.
4. **Get help--** Know how to get help if you need it. Consult instructor during posted office hours. These hours are for you to visit me and ask questions and express any concerns you have. Use the resources available to you for free (especially the Math Center which provides drop-in Math tutoring).
5. **Keep up with all work--** Getting behind will "snowball" on you very rapidly. Do your homework on a daily basis.
6. **Study math everyday--** Don't leave all the work until the weekend. No one can "digest" so much math all at once, no matter how much time you spend trying. Math is best studied in bite-sized, digestible pieces. That means studying a few hours every day.
7. **Read the text--** Reading your math text should be done slowly and carefully... it doesn't read like a novel or a magazine. It is important that you learn the language of math; you cannot succeed in any math course without learning to express yourself in that language. Only by reading your text carefully and regularly can you learn it. Also, make sure to check the additional resources available at the beginning or the end of the textbook
8. **Get Organized--** Organize your class materials, including homework assignments, graded quizzes and tests, notes and any worked out review problems. These items will make valuable references when studying for upcoming tests and the final exam.

**9. Find other students to study with.** Group work can be very productive, and is very much encouraged. You'll be given opportunity to work in a group so exchange email and phone numbers with a couple of students in the class.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Strive for understanding not just remote memory.** Understanding greatly enhances your ability to comprehend later material. Memory is unreliable, and temporary. Understanding is intense, never lost...and exciting!

## FALL 2012 Math 125 Tentative Schedule

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
1	Aug 27-Aug 31	Intro + 1.1, 1.2	1.3,1.4, 2.1	2.2, 2.3	2.3
2	Sept 03-Sep 07	<i>Labor Day (no class)</i>	2.4	2.5,2.6	2.6,2.7
3	Sep 10-Sep 14	2.7,3.1	3.2,3.3	3.4,3.5	3.6,3.7
4	Sep 17-Sep 21	3.7	4.1,4.2	<b>Ch 1, 2&amp;3 Test</b>	4.3,4.4
5	Sep 24-Sep 28	4.4,4.5	4.6	4.7	5.1
6	Oct 01- Oct 05	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.5
7	Oct 08-Oct 12	5.6,5.7	6.1	<b>Ch 4 &amp;5 Test</b>	6.2
8	Oct 15-Oct 19	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.6
9	Oct 22-Oct 26	7.1	7.2	7.3,7.5	7.5
10	Oct 29-Nov 02	9.1,9.2	<b>Ch 6 &amp;7 Test</b>	9.3,9.4	9.5
11	Nov 05-Nov 09	9.6,11.1	11.2	11.3	11.4,11.5
12	Nov 12-Nov 16	<i>Veterans Day (no class)</i>	8.1	<b>Ch 9&amp;11 Test</b>	8.2,8.2
13	Nov 19-Nov 23	8.3	8.4	10.1	<i>Thanksgiving (no class)</i>
14	Nov 26-Nov 30	10.2	10.3	10.4	10.8
15	Dec 03-Dec 07	Review	<b>Ch 8 &amp; 10 Test</b>	Final Review	Final Review
16	Dec 10-Dec 14	<b>Final Exam (7:30 to 9:30)</b>	No Class	No Class	No Class