

**MATH 115 LA Mission College
CLASS SYLLABUS Spring 2013**

Course: **Elementary Algebra**
Course Number 0357; MW 12:20 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.; CMS 027

Instructor: Mrs. D Renee Butler
Office: CMS 247
Office Hours: MW 9:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
E-mail: butlerdr@lamission.edu
Website: www.lamission.edu/~butlerdr
Messages: (818) 364-7600 ext 4279

Text: ***Beginning and Intermediate Algebra***, by Elayn Martin-Gay
custom edition for LAMC, bundled with **MyLabsPlus** access code

Important Dates: February 18 (school closed): Last day to drop WITHOUT a “W”
May 3: Last day to drop WITH a “W”
June 3: 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.: FINAL EXAM

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.

Course Outline: 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.

Calculators: A scientific calculator is required. No graphing calculators, cell phones, IPODs, nor hand held computers nor borrowing calculators are allowed during in-class assessments.

Homework: 10% of your grade

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 next semester. Textbooks purchased online or at other bookstores may not include the access code for MyLabsPlus. 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 complete assignments by their due dates. **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 the students' work, it is important that students write down their solving steps clearly in a HW notebook in order to identify the mistakes made. **Students are required to turn in this HW notebook on the day of the associated exam.** Points may be deducted if work is not shown in a clear and organized manner and labeled neatly indicating the section being worked on, and the problem number.

Quizzes & Group work: 8% of your grade

Quizzes will be given and NOT necessarily announced in advance. Group work will be done in class. Students will work in cooperative groups and be graded on the work assigned which usually covers material from the last few class sessions. *No make-ups will be given for quizzes or group work.*

Tests: 52% of your grade

All tests must be taken on the day assigned. THERE WILL BE NO MAKEUPS. If you have extenuating circumstances and know in advance that you will miss an exam, then it is possible to arrange to take it in advance, but only one rescheduled exam will be allowed. Missed exams will be scored as zero. However, one missed exam or your lowest exam grade will be replaced by the score you get on the final as long as this improves your grade. Tests are all closed book and closed notes. You must show all your work to earn full credit. No listening to iPods and no hats on during testing. No leaving the classroom during testing.

Final Exam: 30% of your grade

This class has a common departmental final. It is cumulative, and has a free answer portion and a multiple choice portion. You are required to take the final exam to pass the class. The final exam should be taken seriously and will require a good deal of dedication on your part in terms of study time. The final exam date and time for this class is Monday, June 3 at 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. There is no rescheduling or exception to the day and time of the final exam.

Final Grade:	Homework	10%	Grade Calculation	A = 90 - 100%
	Quizzes & GW	8%		B = 80 - 89%
	Tests	52%		C = 70 - 79%
	Final Exam	30%		D = 60 - 69%
				F = 0 - 59%

Border line grades will be determined by attendance, participation and level of improvement on the final.

Attendance:

You are expected to attend class regularly, arrive on time and stay for the entire class period. Good attendance shows me that you are putting forth effort. If you need to leave early, please let me know ahead of time. If you miss a class session, you are responsible for the material covered and the assignments for that session. It would be in your best interest to get class notes from another student but you do NOT need to let me know that you are going to be absent if there are no tests scheduled for that day.

(Remember, quizzes, group work and tests cannot be made up.)

The best way to contact me is by email: butlerdr@lamission.edu

Please note: In the subject area, type the name of this class: Math 115, and your name, or else I will not open the email.

It is the student's responsibility to manage his or her academic workload. Should a student decide to stop attending class it is their 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.

Classroom Behavior: Please limit your talking to discussions with the instructor. Talking to the person next to you disturbs the whole class. The appropriate behavior for this class is in the "Standards of Student Conduct" which has been set forth in the Student Code of Conduct printed in the college schedule of classes and/or the college catalog. All cell phones, pagers, and electronic devices are to be turned off.

Academic Honesty: Honesty and integrity are integral components of the academic process. The "Student Academic Integrity Policy Statement" can be found in the college schedule of classes and/or the college catalog. 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.

Tutoring: Form a study group with those in class. See me during my office hours or email me if you have questions. Free tutoring is available in the Math Center, CMS 121, open Mon. – Thur. 11am – 8pm and Sat. 10am – 2pm. Also, online tutorials can be accessed through the website: lamc.mylabsplus.com under Multimedia Library. These include: Video lectures, animations, and chapter test prep videos.

To be successful in this and any math class, expect to spend at least two hours to three hours for every hour in class. 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!

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!

To succeed in this class:

- Do the homework. Learning math takes practice and there is no better practice than working through the assigned problems.
- Ask questions. Feel free to ask questions during the lectures, especially when you are struggling.
- Read the book. It will answer a lot of your questions and help you understand the lectures better.
- Think positive. Do not get discouraged. Anyone can learn math. For some people, it takes a lot more hard work. You can do it!

Resources Available to Students at LA Mission College:

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

If you require special accommodations for a disability, religious holiday, or any other reason please inform your instructor(s) within the first week of the course and we will accommodate you if at all possible. For accommodations due to disability, you must consult with the Disabled Students Programs and Services Office after which we will abide by their recommendations.

COLLEGE RESOURCES FOR LAMC STUDENTS

Admissions and Records: Students can register for classes, request transcripts, file petitions for graduation, and drop classes at this office. For more information call 818-833-3322 or visit: <http://www.lamission.edu/admissions/>

Assessment Center: Offers student assessments in English, English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) and Mathematics. Please contact the Assessment Center at (818) 364-7613 for more information or visit <http://www.lamission.edu/assessment/>

Bookstore: For hours of operation, book availability, buybacks, and other information call 818-364-7767 or 7768 or visit <http://eagleslanding.lamission.edu/default.asp>

Counseling Department: For appointments and information call 818-364-7655 or visit <http://www.lamission.edu/counseling/>

Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSP&S): For appointments, eligibility and information call 818-364-7732 or visit <http://www.lamission.edu/dsps/>

Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOP&S): For appointments, eligibility 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 hours, resources, workshops, and other services contact 818-364-7106 or visit <http://www.lamission.edu/library/>

STEM Office: For information on free tutoring, resources and academic counseling for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Technology) students visit: <http://www.lamission.edu/stem>

Tutoring Services in Learning Center: Laboratories for Learning, Writing, Math & Science. Walk-in and appointment services offered. Call 818-364-7754 or visit www.lamission.edu/learningcenter/

Three Attempt Limit

A new state policy in effect as of 2012 limits students to **three attempts per course**.

Receiving a grade or a "W" for a course counts as an attempt, **regardless of when the course was taken**. Withdrawal by the deadline to avoid a "W" will not count as an attempt. For spring 2013 the deadline to avoid a "W" is Monday, February 18th.

MATH RESOURCES FOR LAMC STUDENTS

Math Center: Free Math tutoring, computer and internet access, located in CMS 121. Call (818) 364-7811 or visit <http://www.lamission.edu/mathcenter/>

For any other questions/concerns that arise throughout the semester, please feel free to get in touch with me, and I will try to guide you to the appropriate place.

Syllabus Continued: Tests may be rescheduled, announced in advance. The final cannot be rescheduled. Students who are absent for 1/3 of the days we meet will be automatically dropped from the class.

Week	Date	Monday	Wednesday
1	Feb 4 / Feb 6	1.2 to 1.5	1.6 to 1.8
2	Feb 11 / Feb 13	2.1, 2.2, 2.3	2.4, 2.5, 2.6
3	Feb 18 / Feb 20	<i>Holiday – Presidents Day</i>	2.7, 2.8
4	Feb 25 / Feb 27	Test #1 on Ch 1&2 3.1, 3.2	3.3, 3.4, 3.5
5	Mar 4 / Mar 6	3.6, 4.1, 4.2	4.3, 4.5
6	Mar 11 / Mar 13	4.6, 4.7	Test #2 on Ch 3&4 5.1, 5.2
7	Mar 18 / Mar 20	5.3, 5.4	5.5, 5.6
8	Mar 25 / Mar 27	5.7	Test #3 on Ch 5
	Apr 1 / Apr 3	<i>Spring Break</i>	<i>Spring Break</i>
9	Apr 8 / Apr 10	6.1, 6.2	6.3, 6.4
10	Apr 15 / Apr 17	6.5	6.5a
11	Apr 22 / Apr 24	7.1, 7.2	7.3, 7.5
12	Apr 29 / May 1	Test #4 on Ch 6&7 8.1	8.3, 8.4
13	May 6 / May 8	8.5	8.6
14	May 13 / May 15	9.1	9.2
15	May 20 / May 22	Test #5 on Ch 8&9	Final Review
16	May 27 / May 29	<i>Holiday – Memorial Day</i>	<i>Finals week – No class</i>
17	June 3	Final Exam 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.	<i>Have a nice summer!</i>



Before you get started in your course, be sure you have:

- MyLabsPlus **web address** from your instructor: <http://lamc.mylabsplus.com>
- Your **login name** and **password** provided by your school.
- The **access code** you purchased from the bookstore with your textbook.

Getting Started:

1. Go to: <http://lamc.mylabsplus.com>
2. Enter your login name (student ID) and password (PASSWORD) and click the **Log In** button.
3. Click on the name of your course in the course list.

If your course name does not appear, contact your instructor.

4. Click on an assignment or learning aid link within the course. You will first be prompted with the License Agreement and Privacy Policy page. Click **I Accept** once you have read and agree with the terms of use.
5. You will be prompted to enter your access code or purchase online. To enter your access code, select the **Access Code** option, enter your code, and click **Next**.

If you prefer to purchase online using a credit card, select the **Buy Now** option and click the product link to complete your purchase.

Once you have successfully entered your access code or completed an online purchase, you will receive a confirmation page and you can continue working.

Technical Support:

If you need technical support, please select the Support tab at the top right hand corner of the site: <http://lamc.mylabsplus.com>