# MATH 115 SYLLABUS SPRING 2013

Section 0358 (MW 12:20-2:50 PM) in CMS 023

# **INSTRUCTOR: BAMDAD SAMII**

#### **>Office hours:**

MW 10:20 – 12:15	in <u>CMS 124</u>
T 11:55 – 1:55	in CMS 121
TH 11:55 – 1:55	In <u>CMS 124</u>
or by appointment	in <u>CMS 124</u>

>Phone number:

818-833-3379

#### ≻Email:

samiib@lamission.edu

#### ≻Web:

www.lamission.edu/~samiib

## Text:



Beginning and Intermediate Algebra, by Elayn Martin-Gay, Custom Edition for Los Angeles Mission College

# Prerequisites:

A grade of C or better in math 112, or appropriate skill level demonstrated through the math placement process.

# **Course Description:**

This is the first course in Algebra. There will be a brief review of concepts learned in prealgebra 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 equations and inequalities in two variables, systems of linear equations in two variables, and problem solving involving the different types of equations.

# **Teaching Philosophy:**

I believe that that the most important aspect of learning mathematics is the development of critical reasoning. I find this belief to be driving force in my

passion for teaching mathematics. Some of you may pursue mathematics beyond the minimum required courses, but the majority will choose not to go beyond that. The ability to think logically and reason abstractly will be a skill that you will use beyond your school years and in your everyday life whether you realize it or not. I always try to build

my lectures and examples with the goal of developing the reasoning for using each skill and method. Learning mathematics begins with understanding the "why" rather than the "how". Every time a new topic is introduced I will try to make sure that you understand why we are going to adopt a certain method of doing the problems. A good example should not only demonstrate the skill needed for solving a problem, but

also the reason that skill is the right skill or at least the preferred skill.

I also believe that once you have the necessary foundation then most mathematics is learned by doing. A lecturer's role is to provide basic directions, clarify the reasons for taking certain steps and point out the pitfalls of each method. After that you

should be provided the opportunity to

practice those skills in class preferably in small groups so that you can learn from each other's mistakes and benefit from explaining your methods to others.



critical thinkers who will do exactly as I say?"

# **Grading:**

## **Tests:**

55% of the grade

There will be 5 tests during the semester. The tests will be cumulative and include problems similar to those from previous tests. Your lowest test score will be replaced with your score on the Final.

#### The tentative dates for these tests are: 2/27,3/11, 4/10, 4/29, 5/20

There will be no make-up tests given without prior authorization or an official medical notice.

Assignments:

15% of the grade

#### These include Homework, Classwork and quizes.

**Online Assignments:** Students enrolled in Math 115 are automatically registered in an online system called MyLabsPlus. Homework and guizzes 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. Assistance in registering/purchasing the access code will be available the first day of class.

#### **Final:**

30% of the grade

The final is on June 3, 12:30 – 2:30 PM and covers the entire semester.

(	Grades:	
	90—100%	А
	80—89%	В
	70—79%	С
	60—69%	D
	0—59%	F )

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

Last day to drop without a W: In the past this was the census date, about the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of classes. It is now the same day as the last day to add, February 18.

**Class repetition:** Students are limited to three attempts at passing a course with a "C" or better. Any letter grade 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.

# **Attendance:**

Attendance is not part of your grade but it is a crucial part of learning and a major factor in your success. You <u>may</u> be excluded if you have an excessive number of unexcused absences or tardiness but it is your responsibility to drop the class if you do not want to continue. Please do not assume that I will necessarily exclude you.

# **Calculators:**

You will need a scientific calculator for some chapters. Cell phone, Ipods, and graphing calculators are **not** allowed on exams.

"Learning is not something that happens to students, it is something that happens by students."



I JUST WANT TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT

IT'S PURELY COINCIDENTAL IF THE LOWEST GRADES IN THE CLASS GO TO

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# **Student Learning outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course, a 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

# **Other resources:**

#### **Tutoring:**

If you have questions and cannot make it to my office hours, or you just like to get more help, free tutoring is available at the Math center located in CMS 121. MyMathLab online tutorial can be accessed in the Math Center computers or any other computer with Internet access.

Video lectures for each section of each Chapter of the textbook are accessible through MyMathLab under Multimedia Library on the left column and selecting "Section Video Lecture".

#### **Counseling Office:**

The Counseling Office is located in the student services annex and provides assistance with academic goals, Career planning, and personal concerns. All students are strongly urged to make an appointment with a counselor prior to registering for classes for the purpose of establishing a program of study.

(www.lamission.edu/counseling)

# Disabled Students Programs & Services (DSPS):

The DSPS office is located in the instructional building room 1018. (<u>www.lamission.edu/dsps</u>)

If you are registered through the DSPS office and need special accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible so I can arrange for them.

#### **Study Skills:**

The learning resource center is an excellent source for study skill and academic help. I also really like the following website for tips on how to be a successful learner in a math class. http://mathcs.slu.edu/undergrad-math/successin-mathematics

**Classmates' Phone numbers:** 

## **STANDARDS OF STUDENT CONDUCT:**

Dishonesty, such as cheating, knowingly furnishing false information to instructors and college personnel, turning in work that is not one's own (plagiarism) will be grounds for disciplinary action at LAMC according to the Standards of Student Conduct. The penalty may range from no credit for the assignment up to an "F" grade and disciplinary action.

## **Important dates:**

Last day to add a class:2/15Last date to drop without a W:2/15Last date to drop with a W:5/3



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# Anticipated Daily Schedule (The dates are subject to change):

Monday	Wednesday
Feb 4	Feb 6
Orientation / 1.1 — 1.5	1.5 — 1.8
Feb 11	Feb 13
2.1 — 2.3	2.4 —2 .6
Feb 18	Feb 20
Holiday	2.7 / 2.8
Feb 25	Feb 27
3.1 / 3.2 — Review	<b>Test 1</b> — 3.3 / 3.4
Mar 4	Mar 6
3.5 / 3.6	4.1 — Review
Mar 11	Mar 13
<b>Test 2</b> — 4.2	4.3 / 4.5
Mar 18	Mar 20
4.6 / 4.7	5.1 / 5.2
Mar 25	Mar 27
5.3 / 5.4	5.5 / 5.6
Apr 1	Apr 3
Spring Break	Spring Break
Apr 8	Apr 10
5.7 — Review	Test 3 — 6.1/ 6.2 / 6.3
Apr 15	Apr 17
6.5 / 6.5a	7.1 — 7.3
Apr 22	Apr 24
7.3 / 7.5	Review
Apr 29	May 1
<b>Test 4</b> — 8.1	8.2 / 8.3
May 6	May 8
8.4 / 8.5	8.6
May 13	May 15
9.1 / 9.2	Review
Мау 20	May 22
Test 5	Final Review
May 27	May 29
Holiday	No Class
June 3	
Final 12:30—2:30	