Math 129A PRE-COLLEGE MATH I Fall 2013

Instructor: Carole Akl
Section: 0376 - MTWTh 9:05 AM-10:55 AM – CMS 122
Office Hours: 1:30-3:00 MW, 2:00-4:00 T, 2:00-3:00 Th or by appointment
Office Location: CMS 124, Office #139
Telephone: (818) 364-7873
E-mail: aklce@lamission.edu
Website: http://mymathlab.com or http://pearsonmylabandmastering.com
Course ID: AKL92283

Prerequisites:
Math 105 with a grade of "C" or better, or appropriate skill level demonstrated through the Math assessment process, or by permit. If you qualify for Math 112 then you may take Math 129A.

Textbook:
Developmental Mathematics with Applications and Visualisations: Prealgebra, Beginning Algebra, and Intermediate Algebra, by Rockswold and Krieger, first edition. **ISBN 1269062972.** The textbook is **highly recommended**. You will be using this textbook for Math 129B, so you won't have to purchase a textbook next semester. When purchased at the bookstore, the book comes bundled with the code needed to access the online assignments. If you choose not to buy the physical textbook, you may purchase the code online through mymathlab.com. This option will give you access to the e-book.

Calculators:
Calculators will not be allowed on exams pertaining to chapters 1 through 5. Only scientific calculators are allowed. No graphing calculator, cell phone, nor hand held computer are allowed on a quiz or test.

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 STEM Center located in CMS 121. The hours of the Center are: M-Th 11am-8pm, and Sat from 10am-2pm.

Description:
This course will prepare you for Pre-College Math II (Math 129B). It is a review of arithmetic and an introduction to elementary algebra concepts. Topics include operations on the set of integers, fractions and decimals; algebraic expressions; solving equations; geometry; word problems; equations of lines; exponents; polynomials and factoring.

Student Learning Outcomes:
By the end of the course, the successful student will be able to:
1. Perform operations and simplify numerical and algebraic expressions involving integer, decimal and rational numbers.
2. Write linear and quadratic equations for word problems and solve.

Course Organization:
The lecture and the lab will follow the attached course schedule as closely as possible. Math 129A is a traditional lecture based course combined with computer aided instruction. Students are required to maintain a notebook. In order to pass Math 129A, students must attend both the class lecture and the lab every class meeting. During the lab hour, students work on MyMathLab independently in the computer lab of the Math Center. The instructor is available to handle individual questions, offer mini-lectures, and establish some collaborative learning environment.

Homework and Quizzes:

- Students enrolled in this section are required to register with MyMathLab online program and enroll in my section **course ID** AKL92283 to complete the required online homework and quizzes. The access code for MyMathLab will be packaged with the new textbook sold in the bookstore. Textbooks purchased online or at other bookstores may not include the access code for MyMathLab (MML). In that case students may purchase the access code for MyMathLab separately online at http://www.mymathlab.com. Please see last page for a MML registration handout.

- All homework and quizzes will be given through MyMathLab. Student should work on their homework as each section is completed in class. Students must complete all online homework and chapter quiz by the stated due date shown online. Since MyMathLab does not grade each step of students' work, it is important that students write down their solving steps clearly on paper in order to identify the mistakes made. All MyMathLab scores will be automatically transferred to the instructor after students hit the save/submit button. Instructor may require students to turn in all written work per homework assignment or chapter quiz to support answers submitted through MyMathLab. **No late homework and chapter quiz will be accepted**.

Final:
You are required to take the final exam to pass the class. The final is cumulative and will be on Monday, December 9th from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

Exams:
Students have to show all work on exams to earn full credit. 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 exam score is dropped. I strongly encourage you to study for and take ALL exams, because should circumstances force you to miss an exam, you will certainly appreciate the "freebie".

Grading:
Final grades will be based on:
▪ Exams – 50%
▪ 1 comprehensive final exam – 26%
▪ Online Quizzes – 8%
▪ Homework and lab – 16%

Your grade in the course is determined according to the following scale:
A: 90% to 100% B: 80% to 89% C: 70% to 79% D: 55% to 69% F: below 55%

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

THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UPS UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES!
NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED EITHER.

Attendance:
Regular and punctual attendance is mandatory for all class meetings. You could be dropped after 4 absences but it is your responsibility as a student to drop the class if you decide to stop attending; failure to do so may result in a grade of F. 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.

Withdrawals:
If you stop attending the class (or wish to drop a class) on or before Sunday November 17th, 2013, you must drop the class yourself officially**.** Failure to do so may result in a grade of "F" in the class. A new state policy in effect as of 2012 limits students to **three attempts per course**. Receiving a grade of "W", "D" or "F" 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 fall 2013 the deadline to avoid a "W" is Sunday, September 8th.

Cell Phones:
Please turn off your phones before coming to class. Class time is for learning mathematics, 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:
Students are expected to adhere to all school policies as described in the Schedule of Classes. Any infringement upon the rights of the other students in the class, such as talking or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.

Miscellaneous:
Math 129A is a very demanding course, and as such, expect to put in a lot of time to see the fruits of your labor. You will need to devote about 15 hours of studying per week for this course. If you have prior engagements such as work and a full load schedule, it will affect your success in this class. So please prioritize and set yourself realistic expectations. Do not take on more than you can handle. Please stop by my office any time throughout the semester and let me know how I can help you. Keep in mind that 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 reflection of what you put into it. Mathematics is not a spectator sport. You have to put in the work to see the results!

Important Dates for Fall 2013:

Last day to add classes:	Friday, September 6
Last day to drop without a "W":	Sunday, September 8
Last day to petition for credit/no credit:	Friday, October 4
Last day to drop with a "W":	Sunday, November 17
Final Exam:	Monday, December 9th from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

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

STEM Center: Free Math tutoring, computer and internet access. Call (818) 364-7811 or visit http://www.lamission.edu/mathcenter/

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

Success and Study 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 rote memory**. Understanding greatly enhances your ability to comprehend later material. Memory is unreliable, and temporary. Understanding is intense, never lost…and exciting!

Math 129A Tentative Timeline

Week	Date	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
1	Aug 26-Aug 29	Intro + 1.1-1.3	1.4-1.6	1.7-2.3	2.4-2.6
2	Sep 02-Sep 05	*Labor Day Holiday*	**Review Ch 1 & 2**	**Ch 1 & 2 Test**	3.1-3.3
3	Sep 09-Sep 12	3.4-3.5	4.1-4.2	4.3-4.4	4.5-4.6
4	Sep 16-Sep 19	4.7	4.8	**Review Ch 3 & 4**	**Ch 3 & 4 Test**
5	Sep 23-Sep 26	5.1-5.2	5.3-5.4	5.5-5.6	6.1-6.2
6	Sep 30-Oct 03	6.3-6.4	6.5-6.6	**Review Ch 5 & 6**	**Ch 5 & 6 Test**
7	Oct 07-Oct 10	7.1-7.2	7.3-7.4	7.4-7.5	8.1-8.2
8	Oct 14-Oct 17	8.3-8.4	8.5	**Review Ch 7 & 8**	**Ch 7 & 8 Test**
9	Oct 21-Oct 24	9.1-9.2	9.2-9.3	10.1-10.2	10.2-10.3
10	Oct 28-Oct 31	10.4	10.5	10.6	10.6-10.7
11	Nov 04-Nov 07	**Review Ch 9 & 10**	**Ch 9 & 10 Test**	12.1	12.2
12	Nov 11-Nov 14	*Veteran's Day Holiday*	12.3	12.4	12.5
13	Nov 18-Nov 21	12.6	13.1	13.2	*Thanksgiving Holiday*
14	Nov 25-Nov 28	13.3	13.4	13.5	13.6-13.7
15	Dec 02-Dec 05	**Review Ch 12 & 13**	**Ch 12 & 13 Test**	**Final Review**	**Final Review**
16	Dec 09-Dec 12	**Final Exam (10:00-12:00)**			