

Math 115 Spring 2014	Elementary Algebra Instructor: Mihran Dabagian
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Section: 3334	Lecture Time: 7:00 pm – 9:0 pm
Lecture Days	Monday and Wednesday
Location:	CMS 023
Office Hours:	6:15 – 6:55 pm Monday -Wednesday
Office Location:	CMS 121
Telephone:	(818)364–7600x4224
E-mail:	<a href="mailto:dabagim@lamission.edu">dabagim@lamission.edu</a>
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**Prerequisites:** Math 112 with a grade of “C” or better, or appropriate skill level demonstrated through the Math assessment process, or by permit.

**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 (Math 115 and Math 125). You will only find this book at the bookstore since it’s a new custom edition. It comes bundled with an access code we will use to access online assignments, including practice and sample final.

**Important Dates for Spring 2014:**

President’s day: Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
Last day to drop without a “W”: Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014  
Cesar Chavez Day: March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014  
Spring Break: April 7 – 14, 2014  
Last day to day to drop with a “W”: Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
Memorial Day: Monday May 26, 2014  
Final Exam: Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014: 8PM – 10 PM.

**Final Exam:** 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.

**Exams:** There will be five exams. They are all free response, and you have to show all your work to earn full credit. They cover about two chapters each. 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.

**Home work** is done in <http://lamc.mylabsplus.com>

User ID: your 88-xxxx-xxxx number

Password:PASSWORD

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 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 made. 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.

**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.

**Classwork/Quizzes:** Class work 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 1- 2 questions.

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

- Final exam – 30% of the course grade
- Best 4 out of 5 Exams (The lowest test score of the 5 will be dropped) – Each test is 60 points
- Homework – 10 points
- Quizzes – 10 points

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.

**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.

**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.

**Withdrawals:** If you stop attending the class (or wish to drop a class) on or before November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012, you must drop the class yourself – officially – 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.

**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, 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.

## Miscellaneous

1. 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.
2. To be successful in this and any other math class, expect to spend **at least** two hours for every class hour. If you have prior engagement such as work and a full load schedule, it will affect your success in this class. Please stop by my office any time throughout the semester and let me know how I can help you. 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!

## MATH 115 SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Monday	Wednesday
1	Feb. 10 – 12	1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5	1.6, 1.7, 1.8, 2.1, 2.2
2	Feb. 17 – 19	<b>President's Day: No class</b>	2.3, 2.4, 2.5
3	Feb. 24 – 26	2.6, 2.7, 2.8	<b>Test # 1: ch.1 &amp; Ch. 2</b>
4	Mar. 3 – 5	3.1, 3.2, 3.3	3.4, 3.5, 3.6
5	Mar. 10 – 12	4.1, 4.2, 4.3	4.5, 4.6
6	Mar. 17 – 19	4.7, Review Ch. 3&4	<b>5.1, Test #2: Ch.3 &amp; Ch. 4</b>
7	Mar. 24 – 26	5.2, 5.3	5.4, 5.5, 5.6
8	Mar. 31 – Apr. 2	5.7, Review Ch. 5	<b>Test #3: Ch. 5</b>
9	Apr. 7 – 9	<b>Spring Break: No Class</b>	<b>Spring Break: No Class</b>
10	Apr. 14 – 17	6.1, 6.2, 6.3	6.4, 6.5, 6.5a
11	Apr. 21 – 23	6.6, 7.1, 7.2	7.3, 7.5
12	Apr. 28 – 29	Review Ch.6 & Ch. 7	<b>Test #4: Ch. 6 &amp; Ch. 7</b>
13	May 5 – 7	8.1, 8.3	8.4, 8.5
14	May. 12 – 14	8.6, 9.1, 9.2	Review Ch. 8 & Ch. 9
15	May 19 – 21	Review Ch. 8 & Ch. 9	<b>Test# 5: Ch. 8 &amp; Ch. 9</b>
16	May 26 – 28	<b>Memorial Day: No class</b>	Final Exam Review
17	Jun. 2 – 4	Final Exam Review	Final Exam Review
18	Jun. 9 – 11	<b>Final Exam: 8 PM–10 PM</b>	No class