

MATH 115, Elementary Algebra, Fall 2013

TTh, 7:00P-9:30P, 5.00, CMS 021

Instructor:	Ryan Yamada	E-mail:	yamadarn@lamission.edu
Office:	CMS 124 (inside CMS 134)	Office Hours:	MW 3:00 – 4:00pm, TTh 12:15 - 2:15pm
Website:	http://www.lamission.edu/~yamadarn/3843		
Text:	<i>Beginning and Intermediate Algebra</i> (LAMC custom edition) by Elayn Martin-Gay		

Course 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.

Final Exam Date: Tuesday, December 10th, 8:00pm-10:00pm

Student Learning Objectives:

- Simplify and evaluate various algebraic expressions.
- Solve, graph, and analyze various algebraic equations and systems of equations, including utilizing them to solve application problems.

Grading: Exams – 45%, Final – 30%, Quizzes 10%, Homework – 10%, Participation (Problems and Group Work) – 5%

Grading Scale: Typically 90% earns the lowest A, 77% the lowest B, and 66% the lowest C, although I reserve the right to be more generous. For borderline cases attendance, participation, and level of improvement on the final are considered.

Attendance: Attendance is very important in the learning process. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to keep up with the material as noted on the schedule. Attendance on non-quiz days will be taken one of three ways.

- Most of the time, problem of the day will be given. This problem will be worth three points and will be related to that day's lecture. You may use your book, notes, or whatever is on the board to solve the problem (but you must work on your own). One point will be given for simply attempting the problem, two points for an answer that starts off right, and three points for the correct answer.
- On some days, group-work may be assigned instead and will be graded similarly to the problem of the days except you can work in groups (and so the problems may be more difficult).
- Sometimes, there may not be time for a problem or group work after the lecture and so a sign-in sheet will be used for attendance. In these cases it is your responsibility to make sure you are signed in.

There are no make-ups for any in-class activities. Missing multiple problems/group work may lead to you getting dropped from the class. However it is always the student's responsibility to be sure to drop or verify that they are dropped from the class. Never assume I will drop you, always double check online or with Admissions.

Exams and Quizzes: You will be given nine quizzes, five exams, and a comprehensive final exam on the dates noted on the course schedule. Your lowest exam score may be replaced by that of the final, if it is to your advantage. No calculators will be allowed on any quizzes or exams. **You must show all of your work directly on the quiz or exam.** Any student caught cheating on an exam will receive no points for that exam; this score will not be replaced by that of the final. Any form of academic dishonesty can be grounds for receiving a grade of F and possibly dismissal from the college. Any student that does not take the final exam will fail the course, regardless of his or her grade to that point.

Make-ups: You must take the final exam with the rest of the class at the scheduled time listed above. Make-up exams are only allowed if a student has a "verifiable documented emergency" (i.e. car accident, hospitalization, etc.) Make-up quizzes, however, are given at the instructor's discretion and depend on both the reason and the amount of notice given (a good reason with a week notice is much more likely to get a make-up than a "shaky" reason the day after the quiz).

Homework: Students enrolled in Math 115 are automatically registered in an online system called MyLabsPlus. 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.

Online assignments will be made available and be due at various times throughout the semester so be sure to regularly check the course page. No extensions are possible, so make sure that you allow plenty of time to complete each assignment. There will be three types of assignments give to you in MyMathLab:

- Homework (H) is the most common type of assignment. On homework, your work is checked after you submit each question and you can instantly go back and fix a problem if it is wrong. You can attempt each problem and each assignment as many times as you wish.
- Review Quizzes (Q) are due on the same days as the in-class quizzes. On quizzes, your work is only checked after you submit the entire assignment. You also will not be told which questions you missed: you will only be given a score afterwards. You may take a quiz as many times as you want, but you must do all of the problems again and only your most recent score will count.
- Review Tests (T) are also due on the same days as the in-class tests. Tests are like quizzes: your work is only checked after you submit the entire assignment. However you can only take a test one time. There is no time limit however, so work carefully and check your answers ... once you submit it the score is final!

These three online assignments will combine together to form your homework score (as calculated and shown to you in MyMathLab). There is also the opportunity for extra credit:

- The Study Plan tab allows you to do assignments called “Quiz Me”. For each “Quiz Me” that you get 100% on, you will earn 1 Mastery Point (MP). For every 10 MPs you earn, I will add one percent to your final homework grade. (Of course you are not expected to earn all 378 MPs. Don’t neglect your regular work to get these MPs; your regular work is worth more than this *extra* credit).

Cell phones and other electronic devices: To avoid unnecessary interruptions in this class, all electronic devices must be turned off or on silent mode and kept out of sight. No calls or other interruptions will be tolerated unless there is an emergency or previously arranged agreement. Students not following this policy may be asked to leave class and any scores for that day will be zero. No cell phones are allowed to be out of backpacks during exams or quizzes. Use of a cell phone in any form during an exam may result in a score of zero for that exam.

STUDENTS ARE TO ADHERE TO THE CAMPUS POLICY ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AS OUTLINED IN THE CURRENT CATALOG. See campus policy on Standards of Student Conduct as outlined in the current LA Mission College Schedule of Classes.

DSPS: If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, you can either contact me or contact the Office of Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS). The DSPS office is located at INST 1018 and can be reached either by phone at (818) 364-7732 or online at <http://www.lamission.edu/dsps>

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 3rd week of classes. It is now the same day as the last day to add, September 7 (in person), September 9 (online).

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 112 two years ago, he has one more chance to pass before he is prevented from enrolling in Math 112.

Math 115 Course Schedule - TR Lecture		
Week	Tuesday	Thursday
8/26 - 8/30	Intro 1.2, 1.3, 1.4	1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8
9/2 - 9/6	2.1, 2.2, 2.3 Quiz #1 (Chapter 1)	2.4, 2.5
9/9 - 9/13	2.5, 2.6 Quiz #2 (Ch. 2.1 - 2.5)	2.6, 2.7
9/16 - 9/20	2.7, 2.8	Exam #1 (Chapter 1 - 2) 3.1
9/23 - 9/27	3.2, 3.3	3.4, 3.5 Quiz #3 (Ch 3.1 - 3.3)
9/30 - 10/4	3.6, 4.1	4.2, 4.3, 4.4 Quiz #4 (Ch 3.4 - 3.6)
10/7 - 10/11	4.5, Review	4.6, 4.7 Quiz #5 (Ch 4.1 - 4.5)
10/14 - 10/18	Exam #2 (Chapter 3 - 4) 5.1	5.2, 5.3
10/21 - 10/25	5.4, 5.5 Quiz #6 (Ch 5.1 - 5.3)	5.6, 5.7
10/28 - 11/1	Exam #3 (Chapter 5) 6.1	6.2, 6.3
11/4 - 11/8	6.4, 6.5 Quiz #7 (Ch 6.1 - 6.3)	6.5a, 7.1
11/11 - 11/15	7.2, 7.3 Quiz #8 (Ch. 6.4 - 6.5a)	7.5, Review
11/18 - 11/22	Exam #4 (Chapter 6 - 7) 8.1	8.3, 8.4
11/25 - 11/29	8.5, 8.6 Quiz #9 (Ch. 8.1 - 8.4)	HOLIDAY (no class)
12/2 - 12/6	9.1, 9.2	Exam #5 (Chapter 8-9)
FINAL EXAM: Tuesday, December 10 8:00pm -10:00pm, CMS 021		