Math 115	Elementary Algebra

LA Mission College Spring 2013
Instructor : Ms. Alice Constantino

Section: 3331 **Lecture Time: 4:05- 6:35 pm - Mon-Wed**
Location: CMS 020
Office Hours: **3:30 – 4:00;MW : CMS 020 /**
6:40- 7:00 pm MW : CMS 020 pm or by appointment

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Website: http://lamc.mylabsplus.com

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

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.

Final: 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 will be on **June 3, 2013 from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Please arrive 15 mins ahead of schedule.**

Exams: There will be six 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.

Online Assignments: 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. 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.

In Class work/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 3 to 5 questions.

Grading: Final grades will be based on:
- **Final exam –---------- ------30%**
- **6 exams---------- -------50% (Best of 5)**
- **Online Assignments Quizzes-----– 10%**
- **In Class work/Quizzes------ -------–10%**

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

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 May 5th, 2013, <u>you must drop the class yourself – officially</u> – in person through the Admissions Office or through the internet. 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 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**.

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: 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!

Important Dates for Spring 2013:

Last day to add classes:	Friday, February 15
Last day to drop without a "W":	Monday, February 18
Last day to petition for credit/no credit:	Friday, March 8
Last day to drop with a "W":	Sunday, May 5
Final Exam:	**June 3 from 5:30-7:30pm**

Resources Available to Students at LA Mission College:

- **Bookstore:** For hours of operation, book availability, buybacks, and other information call (818) 364-7798 or 364-7768 or visit: http://eagleslanding.lamission.edu/

- **Counseling Department:** For appointments and information call (818) 364-7655 or visit https://www.lamission.edu/counseling/

- **Disabled Students Programs and Services:** For appointments and information call (818) 364-7732 or visit http://www.lamission.edu/dsps/

- **Extended Opportunity Programs and Services**: For appointments 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 library hours, resources, workshops, and other services contact (818) 364-7105 or 364-7106 or http://www.lamission.edu/library/

- **Tutoring Services in Learning Center:** Laboratories for Learning, Writing, Math & Science. Walk-in and appointment services offered. Call (818) 364-7754 or visit http://www.lamission.edu/learningcenter/
- **Math Center:** Free Math tutoring, computer and internet access. Call (818) 364-7811 or visit http://www.lamission.edu/mathcenter/
- **STEM Program:** For those interested in pursuing a science, technology, engineering and math, please call the STEM counselor Marina Sangkavichai at (818) 833-3425 or visit http://www.lamission.edu/stem/

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

Math 115 Spring 2013 Tentative Schedule
Section 3331 from 4:05- 6:35pm Mon/ Wed.
Ms. Alice Constantino

Week	Date	Monday	Wednesday
1	Feb 04 / Feb 06	Intro + 1.2 to 1.5	1.6 to 1.8
2	Feb 11 / Feb 13	2.1 to 2.3	2.4 , 2.5, 2.6
3	Feb 18 / Feb 20	**Holiday**	**2.7, 2.8**
4	Feb 25 / Feb 27	**3.1; Chapters 1 & 2**	3.2, 3.3
5	Mar 04 / Mar 06	3.4, 3.5,	3.6, 4.1
6	Mar 11 / Mar 13	4.2, 4.3, 4.4	**4.5, 4.6, 4.7**
7	Mar 18 / Mar 20	**Review ; Chapters 3 & 4 Test**	5.1, 5.2, 5.3
8	Mar 25 / Mar 27	5.4 , 5.5	5.6 5.7
9	Apr 02 / Apr 04		
10	Apr 08 / Apr 10	**Review; Ch 5 Test**	6.1, 6.2
11	Apr 15 / Apr 17	6.3, 6.4	6.5, 6.6
12	Apr 22 / Apr 24	7.1, 7.2	7.3, 7.5
13	Apr 29 / May 01	8.1, 8.3	**Review; Ch 6 & 7 Test**
14	May 06 /May 08	8.4	8.5, 8.6
15	May 13 / May 15	9.1; **Chapter 8. Test**	9.2
16	May 20 / May 22	**9.2 and Final Review**	**Chapter 9 Test**
17	May 27 / May 28-June 3 Final exam week	**May 27 Monday Memorial Day** **June 3 Final Exam** **From 5:30-7:30 pm**	

Getting Started:

1. Go to your school's MyLabsPlus campus: http://lamc.mylabsplus.com.

2. Enter your username (Student ID) and password (PASSWORD) and click the **Sign in** button.

3. It is recommended everyone change their Password when they first login.
   After logging in, you'll see your course list. Before you click to open your course, click "MyProfile" in the upper right and change your old password.

4. Click on the name of your course located in the course list. *If your course name does not appear, notify your instructor.*

5. A) If you wish to use your Access Code (which comes with a brand new textbook from the bookstore) or if you wish to buy the Access Code online using a credit card:

   i. The first time you click on an assignment or learning aid within your course, the License Agreement and Privacy Agreement page will appear. Click **I Accept** once you have read and agree with the terms of use.

   ii. You will now be prompted to enter your MyLabsPlus 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 or PayPal, 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 may now continue working.

5. B) If you wish to use a Temporary Access that works for the first 21 days of the course:

   i. Select the **Temporary Access** tab and a code will be immediately returned. Copy this code.

   ii. The first time you click on an assignment or learning aid within your course, the License Agreement and Privacy Agreement page will appear. Click **I Accept** once you have read and agree with the terms of use.

iii. Next, select the Access Code option, enter your temporary access code which you copied in the boxes provided, and click the **Next** button.

iv. The first time you click on a MyLab assignment or learning aid after the twenty-one day temporary access period has expired, you will be prompted to enter your MyLabsPlus 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 or PayPal, 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 may now continue working.

Technical Support:

If you need technical support, click on Help & Support in the upper right corner. Here, you will find an online knowledge base, as well contact information for the MyLabsPlus support team.