MATH 115
Spring 2008

Instructor: Dr. A. Malki

Contact information:
• Phone: (818)364-7898  E-mail: malkiaj@lamission.edu
• Office hours: Room: INST. 1011: M-Th: 2:00 – 4:00 PM

Course: Math 115, Elementary Algebra
Class Section: 3317  Time: MW: 7:00-9:30PM  Room: BUNG 3
• Feb. 4  Classes begin
• Feb. 15-18  Presidents Day, College closed
• Feb. 19  Last day to add classes
• March 3  Last day to drop classes without “W”
• March 31  Cesar Chavez Holiday, College closed
• March 24-30  Spring Break, College closed
• May 5  Last day to drop with a “W”
• May 25  Classes end
• May 26  Memorial Day, College closed
• May 27-June 2  Final exams week
• COMMON FINAL EXAM TIME: Saturday, May 31, 10:15-12:15 in the bungalows

Course Description: We will cover the following topics:
• Chapter 1: Basic Concepts of Arithmetic and Algebra
• Chapter 2: Real Numbers
• Chapter 3: First Degree Equations and Inequalities of One Variable
• Chapter 4: Formulas and Problem Solving
• Chapter 5: Exponents and Polynomials
• Chapter 6: Factoring and Solving Equations
• Chapter 7: Algebraic Fractions
• Chapter 8: Coordinate Geometry and Linear Systems
• Chapter 9: Roots and radicals
• Chapter 10: Quadratic equations

Course objectives:
• Manipulate numbers using basic numerical operations
• Evaluate arithmetic expressions containing exponents.
• Solve first-degree equations and inequalities
• Solve formulas for a given variable
• Recognize and solve proportion problems; analyze and solve word problems.
• Simplify, add, subtract, multiply and divide polynomials
• Simplify expressions containing negative exponents.
• Factor polynomials using appropriate methods
• Apply factoring techniques to solve second-degree equations.
• Factoring polynomials using a variety of techniques
• Solve equations and word problems using factoring
• Manipulate and simplify algebraic
• Solve equations containing algebraic fractions.
• Graph equations in two variables
• Determine equations of lines
• Solve systems of equations.
• Determine roots; simplify, add, subtract, multiply and divide radicals
• Solve equations containing radicals.
• Solve quadratic equations using completing the square and the quadratic formula
• Define and evaluate relations and functions.
Class Structure:
Most of the class time will be used for lecturing and answering questions. Some time will also be used for students to work in groups. Students should also expect to be called upon to solve problems on the board. Class environment is to be informal, open and relaxed; hence students are strongly encouraged to participate fully in class and to ask questions.

Exams:
1. There will be five examinations of 100 points each. The lowest grade of these five examinations will be dropped. There will be no make-up examinations, since the missed exam will be the one dropped. Any other missed examination will receive a grade of 0. Exams will be announced in class in advance.
2. A comprehensive Common Final examination of 200 points. There are no make-ups for the final and all students must take the final exam on schedule.

Homework: Homework will be assigned on a regular basis, but will not be collected nor will it be counted in the grades. Questions on the homework will be answered in the class.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all class meetings. Unexcused absences of four meetings may result in excluding students from class. Students themselves are responsible for dropping a class they no longer attend; failure to do so may result in a grade of F.

Grades:
Grades will be based on the total number of points earned for tests and the final:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL POINTS</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>540-600</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>480-539</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>420-479</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>360-419</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BELOW 360</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
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NO "INCOMPLETE" GRADES WILL BE GIVEN
NOTE: STUDENTS THEMSELVES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR DROPPING THE CLASS, ACCORDING TO COLLEGE REGULATIONS.

Study Tips:
General:
• Attend all class meetings
• Do not fall behind on your homework or study
• Math is cumulative, what you study now will be needed later
• Avoid anxiety, the best way to do that is by being well-prepared
• Motivate yourself by remembering what a good education means for the future
• Do not rely too much on memorization, concentrate on understanding ideas
• Math is like a foreign language, it must be practiced-- often
• Develop responsibility for your education

Before the test:
• Do the Chapter Tests in the book
• Do not stay up late the night before the test
• Arrange ahead of time

During the test:
• Read the instructions
• Begin with the problems that you know how to do
• Show all your work neatly
• Review your work