

MATH 115
CLASS SYLLABUS Fall 2008

- Course:** Math 115, Elementary Algebra
Ticket Number 0287: MTWTh 9:05 am – 10:20 am: BUNG-3
- Instructor:** Spencer Gerhardt
Office Hours: MW 10:30 am-11:15 am;
Or by appointment
Office: Math Center
Phone: (818) 364-7600 ext. 4176
Email: gerharsj@lamission.edu
- Text:** Elementary Algebra, 8th. Edition, by Kaufmann and Schwitters
- Prerequisite:** Math 112 with a grade of “C” or better, or appropriate skill level demonstrated through the Mathematics assessment process.
- Important Dates:** Sep. 12: Last day to add classes
Sep. 26: Last day to drop without a “W”
Nov. 10: Veterans Day, College closed
Nov. 21: Last day to drop with a “W”
Nov. 27-30: Thanksgiving, College closed
Common Final Exam: Saturday Dec 20, from 10:15 AM to 12:15 PM
- Course Description:** We will cover the following topics:
- Ch 1 Concepts of Algebra
 - Ch 2 Algebraic Expressions
 - Ch 3 First Degree Equations
 - Ch 4 Formulas, Problem Solving
 - Ch 5 Exponents & Polynomials
 - Ch 6 Factoring & Solving Equations
 - Ch 7 Algebraic Fractions
 - Ch 8 Graphing & Linear Systems
 - Ch 9 Roots & Radicals
 - Ch 10 Quadratic Equations
 - Ch 11 Functions
- Student Learning Outcomes:**
- 1) Write and solve linear algebraic equations and inequalities
 - 2) Simplify algebraic expressions.
 - 3) Construct and analyze a linear graph in a Cartesian coordinate system.
 - 4) Solve quadratic and rational equations.
 - 5) Solve a system of two linear equations.
 - 6) Setup and solve application problems.
- Course Organization:** The course will follow the attached course schedule as closely as possible. This course is a lecture-based course with in-class work.
- Tutorial:** Drop-in tutoring is available at the Math Center located in the basement of the Campus Center and in the Math Lab located in the Learning Center.
- Homework:**
- Homework will be assigned and collected every week. The lowest three homework grades will be dropped. All homework assignments should be handed in before the beginning of class. **NO** late homework will be accepted. **Work** MUST be shown and no credit will be given for a list of answers.

Exams:

There will be six exams. The lowest grade will be dropped. There will be **no** make-up examinations, since the missed exam will be the one dropped. Any other missed exam will receive a grade of 0. A common final will be given **Saturday Dec 20**. There are **no** make-ups for the final and all students must take the final exam.

Grading:

Homework/Attendance	10 %
Exams (Best 5)	50 %
Final	40 %

GRADING SCALE: Letter grades will be determined by your overall percentage in the course:

A = 90%-100%
B = 80%-89%
C = 70%-79%
D = 60%-69%
F = 0%-59%

Attendance:

Students are expected to attend all class meetings. Unexcused absences of six 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.

Class comportment:

All students are expected to arrive on time. Late arrivals are disruptive to both the lecturer and students. Once you are seated, do not leave the room until dismissed. Such comings and goings are also disruptive. Students must turn off cell phones while in class. Students are encouraged to ask questions and make comments on the lecture material. This should be done in a courteous manner by raising one's hand. Side conversations between students that disrupt the flow of the lecture will not be tolerated. It is the student's responsibility to manage his or her academic workload. Should a student decide to stop attending class it is their responsibility to drop the class. All students appearing on the grade roster will receive a grade regardless of whether they are attending classes or not.

How to maintain "A"

Everyone starts the class with an "A", so how do you keep it? First, it is very important to attend all class lectures. Second, in order to be good at math it takes practice, practice, and practice. This means you should do all of your homework problems and understand them. Do not just memorize how to do them, but understand the problem and how to solve it using the concepts learned in class. Get a study partner. Many times when a friend or study partner explains a problem or concept to you in a different way, it might make more sense. Also, you can keep each other accountable by making sure you do your homework in a timely manner. Finally, be well-prepared for exams. Do not try to "cram" before the test, but begin studying well before the test date. Get additional help if needed.

Tentative Schedule Math 115

Week	Dates	Material Covered	Test Dates
1	Sept 02-04	Orientation; 1.1 to 1.5; 2.1 to 2.2	
2	Sept 08-11	2.3 to 2.5; Review	Ch1 and 2 Sept 11
3	Sept 15-18	3.1 to 3.5	
4	Sept 22-25	4.1 to 4.5; Review	Ch3 and 4 Sept 25
5	Sept 29- Oct 2	5.1 to 5.4	
6	Oct 6- Oct 9	5.6; 6.1 to 6.3	
7	Oct 13- Oct 16	6.4 to 6.5; Review	Ch5 and 6 Oct 16
8	Oct 20-23	7.1 to 7.4	
9	Oct 27-30	7.5 to 7.6; Review	Ch7 Oct 30
10	Nov 3- 6	8.1 to 8.4	
11	Nov 11-13	8.5 to 8.7; Review	Ch8 Nov 13
12	Nov 17-20	9.1 to 9.5	
13	Nov 24-26	10.1 to 10.3	
14	Dec 01-04	10.4; Review	Ch9 and 10 Dec 04
15	Dec 08-11	11.7; Final Review	

Final Exam: Saturday Dec 20 10:15 AM to 12:15 PM