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


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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework/Attendance</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (Best 5)</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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