

INTENSIVE ALGEBRA

Course Syllabus – Fall 2014

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Student Engagement Hours: MWF 7:45-8:15am; MTWR 11:30-1:00pm; W 9:00-10:30pm (online)

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CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

MAT 1033C Intermediate Algebra

Prerequisite: MAT 0022C with a grade of "C" or better or MAT 0028C with a grade of C or better or an appropriate score on entry placement test. Topics include linear equations and inequalities in two variables and their graphs, systems of linear equations and inequalities, introduction to functions, factoring, algebraic fractions, rational equations, radicals and rational exponents, complex numbers, quadratic equations, scientific notation, applications of the above topics and the communication of mathematics. Applications emphasizing connections with other disciplines and the real world will be included.

MAC 1105 College Algebra

Course based on the study of functions and their role in problem solving. Topics will include graphing, the linear, quadratic, and exponential families of functions, and inverse functions. Students will be required to solve applied problems and communicate their findings effectively. Technology tools will be utilized in addition to analytical methods.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is a combination of Intermediate Algebra and College Algebra. It is an algebra course that will help you acquire the necessary skills to model problems using algebraic techniques. You will also learn to use graphing technology to solve more realistic problems that can not be easily solved by algebraic techniques. The concept of a function will be emphasized throughout the course to prepare you for your future mathematics courses.

COMPETENCIES OF A VALENCIA GRADUATE:

Valencia faculty have defined four interrelated competencies (Think, Value, Communicate, Act) that prepare students to succeed in the world community. These competencies are outlined in the College catalog. In this course, through classroom lecture and discussion, group work, and other learning activities, you will further develop your mastery of these core competencies. Due to the nature of these global competencies many problems and activities will be presented in the context of an application. These applications will require students to select appropriate information from the problem and communicate effectively how to arrive at an appropriate solution for the problem.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:

Text: Materials are provided in PDF format on <http://frontdoor.valenciacollege.edu/?dgarrison>

Calculator: A graphing calculator is required for this course (the instructor will be using a TI-84 plus for classroom demonstration). Graphing calculators may not have symbolic manipulators such as the TI-89.

Lab Manual: Provided.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTER:

A limited number of TI-84 calculators are available for check out. Tutors are available on a drop-in basis.

CLASS POLICIES:

Attendance: Attendance is expected of all students except in case of an emergency. Attendance in lab is mandatory. If due to an emergency you must miss class or lab, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed either by contacting the instructor or another student.

Cell Phones and Other Disruptions: Students are expected to turn off cell phones at the start of class unless the instructor is notified of a possible emergency call. Being late to class or leaving early is a disruption to the class and is discourteous to the professor and the other students. All students are expected to be on time to class and to stay for the entire class period. Students are expected to behave in a manner that is conducive to learning both for themselves and others in the class. Students may be asked to leave if their behavior is deemed a disruption by the instructor.

Homework: Homework problems will be assigned for each section of the text. Students are expected to make an honest attempt to complete all assigned problems prior to the next class. It is recommended that you keep all homework neatly organized in a notebook.

Withdrawals: The withdrawal deadline for receiving a grade of "W" is November 7, 2014. If you withdraw by this deadline, you will receive a "W". If you do not withdraw by the deadline, you will receive a grade of A, B, C, D, or F based on your final average. If you do not show up for the final exam and have not withdrawn from the course, then you will receive a grade of "F" in the course. Any student who withdraws or is withdrawn from a class during a third or subsequent attempt in the same course will be assigned a grade of "F."

You may choose at the end of the term to attempt to pass just MAT1033 by taking the final exam for that course. If you choose this option, you must inform the instructor before the last day of regular classes and you will receive a grade of "W" for MAC1105 and the grade earned for MAT1033.

EVALUATION:

You will receive a grade in both Intermediate Algebra and College Algebra at the end of the term. Your grade for both courses will be the same (see exceptions below) and is determined by grades on tests, lab work, worksheets, and a comprehensive final exam.

Tests: There will be a total of 7 unit tests in the course. I do not allow makeup exams so be sure to be present for all scheduled tests. If you know you are going to miss an exam, please contact me before the exam for possible prescheduling of the exam.

Lab Work: You will receive a grade for your work in lab. Some of these may be group exercises. There will be no makeup assignments. The lowest 2 (10 point) lab activities will be dropped before calculating your lab average to account for illness and emergencies. This will count as 100 points towards your grade.

Worksheets: Worksheets, quizzes and other class activities will count as 150 points towards your grade. All assignments are due at the beginning of class. Worksheets may not be handed in late. The lowest 2 (10 point) grades will be dropped before calculating your average.

Project: There will be a group project in which the group will provide a review activity for one test in the course. A rubric will be provided. The project will be worth 50 points towards your grade.

Final Exam: There will be a comprehensive final exam given at the end of the course on Tuesday, December 9 from 10am-12:30pm. The final will count as 200 points towards your grade. The final exam grade may also replace your lowest exam grade or one missed exam.

GRADE CALCULATION FOR EACH COURSE:

Unit Tests:	700 points
Lab Activities:	100 points
Worksheets/Quizzes:	150 points
Project:	50 points
Final Exam:	200 points

Your grade will be calculated by using the following:

A : 90 – 100% B : 80 – 89% C : 70 – 79% D : 60 – 69% F: below 60%

Exceptions to the above:

If your final average in the two courses is between 65 and 69.5%, then you will receive a C in MAT1033 and a D in MAC1105.

If your final average in the two courses is between 78-79.5%, then you will receive a B in MAT1033 and a C in MAC1105.

If your final average in the two courses is between 88-89.5%, then you will receive a A in MAT1033 and a B in MAC1105.

If you choose to take a W in MAC1105 in College Algebra, the grade in MAT1033 will be based on tests 1, 2, 4, 6, and 7, worksheets, labs, the project, and an Intermediate Algebra final exam. This option must be chosen before the end of regular classes.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

You are expected to do your own work on exams and other assignments. Providing information to another student or receiving information concerning exam content is considered cheating. The first instance of this will result in a grade of "0" for that exam. If you receive a 0 for cheating, that grade may not be replaced with the final exam. The second instance will result in a grade of "F" for the course.

Disclaimer: Changes in the evaluation procedure may be made at the discretion of the instructor.