MAT1033C Intermediate Algebra
Course Syllabus, Spring 2017

Course Description

Intermediate Algebra presents algebraic skills for MAC 1105. 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.

NOTE: This course is taught using a flipped model of instruction. This means students will be required to watch lecture videos at home and we will spend class time reviewing and practicing those concepts.

Instructor

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Office: 5-119
Office Hours:

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Friday
11:30-2:00	11:30-2:00	11:30-2:00	11:30-1:00	8:00-9:00*

*Indicates that the office hours will only be held via email.

Materials

Text: Intermediate Algebra, 7th edition, by Elayn Martin-Gay (**all you need to purchase is the MyMathLab Student Access Kit. YOU DO NOT NEED TO BUY THE TEXTBOOK!!!**)

Calculator: You must have a scientific calculator. NO GRAPHING CALCULATORS, CELL PHONE OR TABLET CALCULATORS will be permitted on exams.

Resources

- ME! Come see me during office hours and make sure to ask questions!
- Many students of algebra find it extremely helpful to form study groups with their classmates. This practice is highly recommended.
- The West Campus Math Center – Bldg. 7 Room 240 (for additional information, including hours of operation, please visit their website @ http://valenciacollege.edu/west/lss/math/
- The Math Connections, located inside the Math Center, room 7-255, is a learning community for increasing mastery of the math competencies associated with your course. Various instructors work with and coach community members according to the schedule posted on the Math Connections window. Visit early; visit often!

- The Hands-On Math room, located in the Math Center, 7-256, is an additional resource where you can practice mathematical concepts through the use of manipulatives.

Class Policies

Attendance
- You are expected to attend every class meeting, unless an illness or emergency makes it impossible for you to do so.
- You are expected to be on time and prepared for class with notes from the assigned video lectures.
- There will be brief "Exit Ticket" quizzes assessing you on what you watched and reviewed in class. If you are absent and miss the entrance ticket, you cannot make it up and you will receive a zero.
- ***On exam days, if you are more than 15 minutes late you will not be allowed to take the exam.***

Conduct
- You are encouraged to actively participate and ask pertinent questions during class. Courtesy will be observed at all times.
- Your attitude will greatly affect your ability to succeed in this course. It will also affect your classmates' attitudes should you choose to participate in class discussions. Always consider this carefully before you speak or act.
- We will use technology every day in class. Please make sure the use of cell phones, tablets, and laptops is for educational purposes.
- To create a good environment for learning, avoid sidebar conversations with other students while work is being done at the board, rude comments or remarks, raised voices or confrontational comments. Follow instructions given by your instructor, who serves as your classroom manager.
- If your actions in class are deemed by your instructor to be disruptive, you will be asked to leave class immediately. If you are ever asked to leave class, you **may** be permitted to return to future class meetings after consultation with your instructor outside of class. You may also be required to arrange a conference with another college official before attending class again.

Academic Honesty
- Honesty and integrity reward you in many ways, including avoidance of the grade of zero that is assigned to any student who cheats on any test or assignment.
- If I *suspect* cheating on any assignment (online or in class), I reserve the right to require the student(s) in question redo the assignment(s), in a reasonable time frame, in a proctored location for a new grade.

Grading
- Partial credit on tests and assignments is sometimes given, when appropriate, solely at the discretion of the instructor.

Exit Tickets
- At the end of class (not all classes but most), you will have a brief quiz on the material that you learned about in the previous night's videos and what we reviewed in class.

- You will need a mobile device to participate in the exit ticket (phone, tablet, laptop, etc.). The library offers free rentals of both iPads and Surfaces for students with a valid Valencia ID.
- Exit tickets are graded 50% on completion and 50% on accuracy.
- IF YOU ARE ABSENT, YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO MAKE-UP THE ASSIGNMENT AND YOU WILL RECEIVE A 0!
- It's not expected that you get every question right every time, however, the questions will be quite basic.
- The purpose of the exit ticket is to determine if students are watching the lecture videos and taking notes in addition to finding out what concepts students did not understand from the videos and in-class review.
- Students are allowed to use their notes on the exit tickets, but may not discuss the problems with classmates.

NSF Assignments
- I am continually exploring new possibilities that might enhance your learning experience in this course. Throughout the course, there will be <u>four</u> activities worth a small part of your grade. I am collaborating with other math professors at Valencia as well as researchers from the University of Virginia in this research project to improve student learning in our front door courses. These activities are designed to help us understand your attitudes in an effort to assist us on improving future classes for you and other students.

Mastery Quizzes and Study Plans
- Completion of practice problems on a regular basis is crucial to your success in this course.
- You will have mastery quizzes that must be taken on MyMathLabs.
- Mastery Quizzes are timed.
- You may retake the mastery quizzes as many times as you'd like before the due date. If you wish to retake the mastery quiz, you must first complete the corresponding study plan.
- There are 15 mastery quizzes; I will drop your lowest grade.
- Each student may request to have 1 mastery quiz deadline extended.
- Additional (up to 3) extensions may be earned by completing the following: (1) completing the diagnostic test on MyMathLab by the end of the first day of class, (2) completing the SFI at the end of the term, (3) missing <u>no more than one</u> class period (two tardies will count as one absence).
- 25 BONUS POINTS for students who complete all 15 mastery quizzes with 60% or higher by the due date. (In the event that you have missed the due date and used an extension, you are no longer eligible for the 25 point bonus.)
- MyMathLab Course ID: **Given out via email and during first lecture!**

Exams
- Students will have 4 Unit Exams throughout the semester at the end of each unit.
- All materials in your work area during testing, including electronic memory, are subject to thorough and unannounced inspection by the instructor.
- NO GRAPHING CALCULATORS OR CELL PHONE CALCULATORS WILL BE PERMITTED ON EXAMS.

- You will have a cumulative final exam at the end of the semester. If your final exam grade is higher than any of your unit tests, it will replace your lowest unit test grade. (Your final exam will not replace a zero on an exam as the result of cheating)
- If you have an A going into the final exam, you may opt out of taking the final exam. This requires that you have a minimum of 940 points (on the 4 unit tests, exit tickets, NSF Assignments, labs, and mastery quizzes) before the final exam is taken. If you do not have 940 points or more, you are required to take the final exam. If you do not, you will receive a grade of an F regardless of your overall average.
- **No make-up tests will be given. If you know you will be absent on the day of an exam AND provide ample notice (a minimum of 2 weeks) you will allowed to take the exam early.**
- Test retakes will be offered for every test for bonus points on your exam. They will be in the form of a chapter test on MML
  - ➢ 1 attempt to be taken within 3 days of getting your test back
  - ➢ Test is timed
  - ➢ You must earn an 80% or a minimum of 20% higher than your original grade to earn bonus points
  - ➢ The points you earn will be equal to the weight of the test curve (minimum of 5%)

> **Make-Up Assignments**
> **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL A STUDENT BE ALLOWED TO TAKE AN EXAM AFTER IT IS GIVEN IN CLASS OR AFTER IT'S DUE DATE!!!** If you know in advance that you will miss an in-class exam, it is at your instructor's discretion to offer the exam to you early. (Adequate notice, minimum of 2 weeks, must be given)

Lab Component
Each student must complete a minimum amount of time (**50 minutes per week in Fall/Spring**) per week in the lab. In order to maximize your learning experience, lab activities are designed to reinforce concepts learned in class and complement your course work. Each Chapter that you learn from your book is accompanied by Lab activities. These lab activities (worksheet, self-check, and lab assessment) must be completed by the scheduled due dates. No Exceptions.

Lab Activity	Percentage of Lab Grade
Video, Project, Project self-check	15 Points for completion
Lab Assessment	15 Points for accuracy

You will have 3 attempts for the Lab Assessment and should utilize all attempts if needed.
It is your responsibility to keep your projects for each chapter. At the end of the semester, if you completed the project on time, but was unable to complete the lab assessment, then you can turn in the project to get half credit for the lab.

Withdrawal
The deadline for withdrawing from class with a grade of "W," if you are eligible to do so, is **March 31, 2017** for full term classes. During the first or second attempt in the same course at Valencia, if you withdraw or are withdrawn by the professor, before the Withdrawal Deadline, you will receive a W (Withdrawn). You will not receive credit for the course, and the W will not be calculated in your grade point average; however, the enrollment will count in your total attempts in the specific course. **Students may not withdraw from a class if it is their third attempt.** If you do not withdraw prior to the Withdrawal Deadline or fail to take the required final examination, the professor will assign your grade based on your performance in the course at the time of withdrawal.

Grade Calculation

Item	Points
Chapter 2 & 3 Unit Test	100 points
Chapter 6 Unit Test	100 points
Chapter 7 Unit Test	100 points
Chapter 8 & 4 Unit Test	100 points
Entrance Tickets	80 points
NSF Assignments	40 points (10 points each)
Lab Component	180 Points (30 points per chapter)
Mastery Quizzes	350 Points (25 points per check)
Final Exam	300 Points
Total Points	1350

A traditional grade scale will be used to determine your final letter grade (90-100 A, 80-89 B, 70-79 C, 60-69 D, Below 60 F). Since the total number of points will vary from student to student, you will have a gradebook template to use to keep track of your grade.

Special Accommodations
Students with disabilities who qualify for academic accommodations must provide a letter from the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) and discuss specific needs with the professor, preferably during the first two weeks of class. The Office for Students with Disabilities determines accommodations based on appropriate documentation of disabilities (West Campus SSB 102, extension 1523).

Student Resource for Assistance: Valencia College is interested in making sure all our students have a rewarding and successful college experience. To that purpose, Valencia students can get immediate help with issues dealing with stress, anxiety, depression, adjustment difficulties, substance abuse, time management as well as relationship problems dealing with school, home or work. BayCare Behavioral Health Student Assistance Program (SAP) services are free to all Valencia students and available 24 hours a day by calling (800) 878-5470. Free face-to-face counseling is also available.

Changes in the syllabus, schedule, and/or assignments for this class may be made at the discretion of your instructor.