

MATH 71
INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA
Fall 2013

Professor: Frank V. Tran

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Office hours: MW: 3:10pm – 4:10pm; F: 11:15 – 12:15pm

TTh: 11:15am – 12:15am and 2:00pm – 3:00pm

Materials Required

Text: *Intermediate Algebra, 6th Edition by Robert Blitzer.*

Calculator: *A scientific or graphing calculator. (You need keys marked: ln, log, and \wedge)*

General Description and Objectives

Upon successful completion of the course, you should be able to:

- 1. Demonstrate the ability to perform fundamental operations on algebraic expressions, graphic equations, linear equations, formulas, applications and exponents*
- 2. Solving systems of linear equations in two and three variables with applications.*
- 3. Simplifying rational expressions, polynomial rational equations.*
- 4. Solve and interpret quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic equations.*
- 5. Analyze and locate zeros of polynomial functions.*
- 6. Determine whether a function is one to one and construct its inverse function.*
- 7. Analyze and manipulate symbolically expressions representing sequences and series.*
- 8. Demonstrate familiarity with the elements of symbolic logic and be able to analyze and critique logical arguments.*

Class Attendance

Attendance at each class meeting is expected and is important for your success in the course. The roll sheet will be passed in the second half of the class (after break time) and it's up to you to sign in. A student may be dropped for excessive (more than four) absences. Pagers and phones should be set so that they do not beep or ring during class.

Quizzes:

There will be about 8 quizzes worth 50 points each; four of which are announced and the rest are surprised quizzes. All quizzes are consisting of problems similar to the homework and examples in lectures. There will be no makeup quizzes. At the end of the semester, the highest 7 quiz grades will be used.

Homework

The completion of daily homework is critical to your success in this course. There will be about 11 homework assignments, each counting 10 points that will be collected on Tuesday. **Late homework will not be accepted**, even if you are absent. If you do not turn in assignment on time, you will receive a zero. On each assignment, a small selection of problems will be graded for a few points; the remaining points will be given for the completeness of the assignment. In order to receive credit for “completeness,” an honest attempt must be made on each problem. At the end of the semester, the highest 10 scores will be used.

Most of the homework problems will be related to topics discussed in class; some will ask you to try something we didn't talk about. You should be able to reconcile most difficulties with the homework before class. Please make good use of the tutoring services on campus, and each other. While you may discuss these homework problems (as well as all others) with other students in the class or with me, the solutions turned in should for the most part be your own work. You should not write up solutions as a group.

It is very important both for your understanding of the material and for preparing for exams that you work all the assigned problems as soon as the material is covered in class.

Exams

There will be four exams. You will be allowed at most one makeup exam, but only for extreme circumstances with providing legitimate documentations. If you will be unable to take an exam at the scheduled time, **you must contact me at least two days before the day of the exam to request a makeup exam.** At the end of the semester, if you have missed no more than **three** classes, 85% of your final exam may be used to replace an exam score if this would be advantageous to your course grade. The exams will test your understanding of the concepts covered in the course. Most of the questions on these exams will require showing a significant amount of work to justify your answer. A correct answer with no work shown will be given a zero. The exams will also require you to explain and interpret your results.

Grading

Your semester course grade will be determined by your percentage of the total points possible. You should keep an accurate record of your grades. I will provide information on your grade standing after each exam.

	Percentage
Exams	50 %
Final Exam	30%
Homework	10%
Quizzes	10%

The scale used to convert from total points earned to a letter grade will no more stiff than:

Percentage	Grade
90.0 - 100.0	A
80.0 - 89.9	B
70.0 - 79.9	C
60.0 - 69.9	D
Below 60.0	F

Academic Honesty:

I place a high premium on honesty. Therefore, I consider cheating a serious offense, not only to me, and to other students, but ultimately to the cheater. If a student cheats on an exam, either by copying another student's work or by using a cheating device (notes on paper, clothing, desk, est....) and I catch him or her, I will address it by either giving them an F for the exam, an F for the entire course, or asking the school to dismiss the student.