

Fall 2016 Syllabus

The University of Iowa
The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Department of Mathematics

MATH: 0100: 331
Basic Algebra
MWF 3:30P-4:20P
221 MLH

Some of the policies relating to this course (such as the drop deadline) are governed by its administrative home, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, 120 Schaeffer Hall.

Course Instructor

Instructor: Ranthony Edmonds
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Office Hours: Friday 2:15P-3:15P
Math Lab Hours: Mon. 10:30A-12:30P, Wed. 10:30A-11:30A, Fri. 10:30A-12:30P

Course Supervisor

Supervisor: Dr. Olga Sokratova
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Office Hours: MWF 10:45A-11:35A

DEO Contact Information

Department Chair: Dr. Dan Anderson
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Course Description

This course has **no prerequisites**. This course introduces students to basic algebraic techniques, in particular, as they apply to the solution of equations and systems of equations. Topics include algebraic operations, linear and quadratic equations, simultaneous equations, inequalities, polynomials, rational expressions, factorization, exponents, and radicals. Emphasis is placed on the solutions of verbal problems. The course is intended to remediate weakness in a student's high school math background. ***Does not count toward total credit required for graduation.***

Materials

Required: Text: Lial, Hornsby and McGinnis. *Beginning Algebra*. 12th ed. Pearson, Addison Wesley ISBN 978-0-321-96933-0 (hardbound) or ISBN 978-0-321-96947-7 (loose-leaf) (available at University of Iowa Bookstore/Iowa Books and online)

Optional: Lial, Margaret et al. *Beginning Algebra Student's Solutions Manual*. 12th ed. ISBN-13: 9780321969330.

This manual provides worked-out, step-by-step solutions to the odd-numbered problems in the text. This gives you the information you need to truly understand how these problems are solved.

Course Grading

Calculation of Grade:

Attendance: 5%

Homework: 10%

Quizzes: 15%

Midterms: 3 in class midterms, each worth 15%

Final Exam: 25%

Grading System:

Grades will be assigned on a curve, which will be determined after the final examination. The curve will not be lower than the following:

93-100%	90-92.9	87-89.9	83-86.9	80-82.9	77-79.9	73-76.9	70-72.9	67-69.9	63-66.9	60-62.9	less than 60
A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F

Note that no A+ will be given in this course.

Homework

Homework will be assigned after each class and will be collected at the **beginning** of every class. I also encourage you to work through some of the suggested problems for extra practice. Some assignments will be graded for completion only while others will be graded for both completion and accuracy. The two lowest homework scores will be dropped at the end of the semester. Note that presentation of your results is very important. Be clear when communicating your answers. At the top of each assignment you should write your full name, the date, and the homework number. If there are multiple sheets they must be stapled. Scratch paper will not be accepted. Paper with frays that have not been removed will not be accepted.

ICON (<https://icon.uiowa.edu/>) Class announcements, due dates, and information pertaining to homework, quizzes, and tests will be posted regularly on ICON. I recommend you check it daily.

Course Content and Assignments

We'll cover all chapters from the textbook except for Sections 3.6, 3.7, 4.5, 7.8. The tentative schedule for the semester is displayed below.

Week	Date	Lesson	Assessment
1	8-22	Intro, R1,	
	8-24	R1 (cont'd), R2	
	8-26	1.1, 1.2	Syllabus Quiz
2	8-29	1.2, 1.3	
	8-31	1.4, 1.5	
	9-2	1.6, 1.7	Quiz: R1-1.5
3	9-5	NO CLASS	Enjoy University Holiday!
	9-7	2.1, 2.2	
	9-9	2.3, 2.4	Quiz: 1.6-2.2
4	9-12	2.5	
	9-14	2.6	
	9-16	2.7	Quiz: 2.3-2.6
5	9-19	2.8	
	9-21	3.1	
	9-23	None	Exam 1: Chapters R,1,2
6	9-26	3.2, 3.3	
	9-28	3.3, 3.4	
	9-30	3.5	Quiz: 3.1-3.4
7	10-3	4.1, 4.2	
	10-5	4.3, 4.4	
	10-7	5.1,	Quiz 3.5-4.4
8	10-10	5.2, 5.3	
	10-12	5.4, 5.5	
	10-14	5.6	Quiz 5.1-5.5
9	10-17	5.7	
	10-19	6.1	
	10-21	None	Exam 2: Chapters 3,4,5
10	10-24	6.2, 6.3	
	10-26	6.4, 6.5	
	10-28	6.6	Quiz 6.1-6.5
11	10-31	7.1, 7.2	
	11-2	7.3, 7.4	
	11-4	7.5	Quiz 6.6-7.4
12	11-7	7.6, 7.7	
	11-9	8.1, 8.2	
	11-11	8.3	Quiz 7.5-8.2
13	11-14	8.4, 8.5	
	11-16	8.6	
	11-18	None	Exam 3: Chapters 6,7,8
14	11-21 to 11-25	NO CLASS	Enjoy University Holiday!
15	11-28	9.1	
	11-30	9.2	
	12-2	9.3	Quiz 9.1-9.2
16	12-5	9.4	
	12-7	TBD	
	12-9	TBD	Quiz 9.3-9.4

Quizzes and Exams

Examinations: There will be three in-class midterms, and the tentative dates and content of these exams are displayed above. The final exam will be cumulative, and its time and location have yet to be determined.

Make-up exams will be given only under exceptional circumstances (e.g. illness, mandatory religious obligations, certain university activities, or unavoidable circumstances). All exams are closed-book, closed-notes.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be given every Friday at the beginning of class. All of these quizzes will be based on problems from the homework assignments.

Quiz make-ups will be allowed only for official University events or a documented medical emergency. It is your responsibility to contact me to arrange a time to make-up a missed quiz. Make-ups must be completed within one week of the missed quiz. To qualify for a makeup in the case of an official university event (sporting event, field trip, etc.) your supervising professor/coach must confirm your intended participation via letter or e-mail BEFORE the day of the quiz. You will need to provide a doctor's note as soon as possible to be considered for a makeup quiz in the case of medical emergency. To cover all other contingencies (illness, oversleeping, etc.) the two lowest quiz scores will be dropped at the end of the semester.

Make-up policies for exam and quizzes: The make-up exams/quizzes will be given only under exceptional circumstances (e.g. illness, mandatory religious obligations, official University activities, or unavoidable circumstances). Make-ups must be completed within one week of the missed exam/quiz. To qualify for a makeup in the case of an official university event (sporting event, field trip, etc.) your supervising professor/coach must confirm your intended participation via letter or e-mail BEFORE the day of the exam. If you miss an exam/quiz due to illness, you should contact your instructor as soon as possible as well as submit the [absence form](#) through the Registrar website. If you miss more than one exam/quiz due to illness, medical documentation should be presented.

A Word about the Date and Time of the Final Exam:

The final examination date and time will be announced by the Registrar generally by the fifth week of classes. All students should plan on being at the UI through the final examination period, which is December 12 through December 16, 2016. Once the Registrar has announced the date, time, and location of each final exam, the complete schedule will be published on the Registrar's web site and will be shared with instructors and students. Do not make your end of the semester travel plans until the final exam schedule is made public. It is the student's responsibility to know the date, time, and place of the final exam.

Course Policies

Attendance: Attendance will be taken regularly. Absences will only be excused for medical or family emergency reasons, a university-sanctioned field trip or the observance of a religious holiday. If you miss a class due to illness, you should submit the [absence form](#) through the Registrar website. If you miss more than five days of classes you should be able to provide a record of appointments or documentation from a health care provider.

You are allowed to have three unexcused absences without a penalty; each subsequent unexcused absence will lower your overall grade by 0.5%. If you miss a class, you are still responsible for the material discussed in class and for all the announcements made in class.

Participation in class discussions: I highly recommend that students make use of opportunities to ask questions in class or present problems to the class when offered. True learning is born from consistent questioning.

Timely completion of assignments: Late homework may be submitted by the next day of class for half credit. Any assignments that are later than one class will not be graded. Late assignments may be submitted directly to me or to my mailbox by 4:30P.

Calculators: Unless otherwise indicated, no calculators or other hand-held electronic devices are allowed on exams or quizzes. Exams and quizzes are written in such a way that a calculator is not necessary.

Student Collaboration: The homework in this course is designed to help you master your knowledge related to the topics covered during lecture. That being said, you may work on the homework problems with others or use online resources. However, it is crucial to note that mastery of algebra comes only from significant practice. Cutting corners on homework assignments may leave you significantly vulnerable during quizzes and exams.

Other Expectations of Student Performance: Expect to spend at least 6 hours weekly outside of the classroom doing the assignments. More time may be needed to prepare for exams.

Late arrivals and the use of electronic devices are generally considered disrespectful actions toward both the instructor and the students in the class. As a result, I kindly ask you to refrain from such activities. If such actions become disruptive, you may be asked to leave.

Resources for Students

Math Tutorial Lab: The Math Tutorial Lab offers free tutorial services for the course material. Participation is optional, but strongly recommended. It is located in 125 MLH and it is staffed by teaching assistants from the Department of Mathematics.

Teaching Policies & Resources

Administrative Home

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is the administrative home of this course and governs matters such as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, and other related issues. Different colleges may have different policies. Questions may be addressed to 120 Schaeffer Hall, or see the CLAS Academic Policies Handbook at <http://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook>.

Electronic Communication

University policy specifies that students are responsible for all official correspondences sent to their University of Iowa e-mail address (@uiowa.edu). Faculty and students should use this account for correspondences ([Operations Manual, III.15.2](#), k.11).

Accommodations for Disabilities

The University of Iowa is committed to providing an educational experience that is accessible to all students. A student may request academic accommodations for a disability (which includes but is not limited to mental health, attention, learning, vision, and physical or health-related conditions). A student seeking academic accommodations should first register with Student Disability Services and then meet with the course instructor privately in the instructor's office to make particular arrangements. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between the student, instructor, and SDS. See <http://sds.studentlife.uiowa.edu/> for information.

Academic Honesty

All CLAS students or students taking classes offered by CLAS have, in essence, agreed to the College's [Code of Academic Honesty](#): "I pledge to do my own academic work and to excel to the best of my abilities, upholding the [IOWA Challenge](#). I promise not to lie about my academic work, to cheat, or to steal the words or ideas of others; nor will I help fellow students to violate the Code of Academic Honesty." Any student committing academic misconduct is reported to the College and placed on disciplinary probation or may be suspended or expelled ([CLAS Academic Policies Handbook](#)).

CLAS Final Examination Policies

The final examination schedule for each class is announced by the Registrar generally by the fifth week of classes. Final exams are offered only during the official final examination period. **No exams of any kind are allowed during the last week of classes.** All students should plan on being at the UI through the final examination period. Once the Registrar has announced the date, time, and location of each final exam, the complete schedule will be published on the Registrar's web site and will be shared with instructors and students. It is the student's responsibility to know the date, time, and place of a final exam.

Making a Suggestion or a Complaint

Students with a suggestion or complaint should first visit with the instructor (and the course supervisor), and then with the departmental DEO. Complaints must be made within six months of the incident (CLAS [Academic Policies Handbook](#)).

Understanding Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UI community have a responsibility to uphold this mission and to contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment should be reported immediately. See the UI [Office of the Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator](#) for assistance, definitions, and the full University policy.

Reacting Safely to Severe Weather

In severe weather, class members should seek appropriate shelter immediately, leaving the classroom if necessary. The class will continue if possible when the event is over. For more information on Hawk Alert and the siren warning system, visit the [Department of Public Safety website](#).