

Math 0003-206 Beginning Algebra

Spring 2024

Contact Information:

Instructor: Dr. Guy Bernard

Office: 121 Pierce Hall

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Office Hours: MWF 11:00am-12:00pm, TR 10:00am-11:00am, or by appointment.

Important Notices (please read carefully)

- Should a student need to quarantine because of having acquired the Covid-19 virus (or to having been exposed to an infected person with this virus), he or she should advise me of their situation and the number of days they will be absent from class. Then, such students will have to follow the lectures by reading the textbook. They will still be responsible for doing the My Lab Math online homework assignments by their due dates. If such a student misses an in-class test, arrangements will be made on a case-by-case basis. In most cases, the final exam will be substituted for the missed test. (refer to Evaluation 2).
- Should a student be unable to take the Final Exam at the scheduled date (due to Covid-19 or any other illness), he or she will need to contact me before the final exam and contact the Office of Students Rights and Responsibilities to request an absence letter to obtain a differed final exam. This office will require documentation before agreeing to write such a letter. Office of Students Rights and Responsibilities Director: Mr. Dail Neely phone: (940) 397-7500

Class Details:

Lectures: TR 3:30pm-4:50pm in Bolin 314.

Text: Beginning and Intermediate Algebra by Margaret L. Lial, John Hornsby, and Terry McGinnis, 7th edition.

Quiz Solutions: posted on D2L after being taken in class.

Calculator: Any scientific (or graphing) calculator.

Course Description:

The main topics covered will be: Real Numbers and Operations on Real Numbers. Linear Equations in One Variable, Equations of Straight Lines, Polynomials, and Factoring Polynomials. Applications of these topics will be presented.

Course Outline: The following chapters of the text will be covered:

- Chapter 1 The Real Number System
- Chapter 2 Linear Equations and Inequalities in One Variable
- Chapter 3 Linear Equations in Two Variables.
- Chapter 4 Exponents and Polynomials
- Chapter 5 Factoring and Applications (except section 5.6)
- Chapter 9 Relations and Functions (only Sections 9.1 and 9.2)

Quizzes, Tests, and Final Exam:

- Quizzes will be given about once a week (about 10 quizzes in all)
- Quizzes will cover only three or four sections of the text.
- Quizzes will be on previously assigned My Lab Math homework.
- Solutions to quizzes will be posted on D2L immediately after being taken in class. They will remain there for the duration of the whole course.
- There will be 4 tests during the semester.
- Solutions to tests will not be given.
- The final exam will be comprehensive and compulsory.
- All tests and the final exam will be closed book exams.
- Calculators will be permitted during all quizzes, tests, and the final exam.
- Make-up tests will be granted only in exceptional situations and only when the student has made the request several days before the date of the class-scheduled test. Make-up quizzes will never be given.

Test Dates:

- Test No.1 Tuesday February 13, 2024 (subject to change)
- Test No.2 Tuesday March 19, 2024 (subject to change)
- Test No.3 Tuesday April 16 2024 (subject to change)
- Test No.4 Tuesday April 30, 2024 (subject to change)
- Final Exam Wednesday May 8, 2024 1:00pm-3:00pm.

Grading:

The course grade for each student will be the better of the two following evaluations:

Evaluation 1

- My Lab Math 7%
- Quizzes 7%
- Test No.1 14%
- Test No.2 14%
- Test No.3 14%
- Test No.4 14%
- Final Exam 30%

Evaluation 2

- My Lab Math 7%
- Quizzes 7%
- Best Test 14%
- 2nd Best Test 14%
- 3rd Best Test 14%
- Worst Test 0%
- Final Exam 44%

Letter Grade:

In this course, the course letter grades will correspond to the following course grades:

- A 85% and above
- B 75% to 84%
- C 65% to 74%
- D 55% to 64%
- F below 55%

Grade Appeal Procedure:

If you wish to appeal your final course grade, the following link describes the appeal process (to the Dean of the College).

[Grade Appeal Checklist](#)

Important Date:

Last date to withdraw from the course with the grade of W:
4:00pm Wednesday April 24, 2024.

Attendance Policy:

Students must attend all lectures. Attendance will be taken, but, due to the pandemic, no penalties will be imposed for absences.

Disabilities Statement:

Students who need special accommodations should inform the Instructor and contact the Disability Support Services Office:
room 168 Clark Student Center Phone: (940) 397-4140.

Academic Dishonesty:

The sanction for academic dishonesty on quizzes, tests, or the final exam will be the assignment of the grade of ZERO on the given test where the dishonesty occurred. This may lead to the failing of the course should the students' course grade fall below the passing grade

[Academic Honesty Checklist](#)

Use of Technology:

No cell phones will be allowed during quizzes, tests, and the final exam. Students may use any kind of technology (AI, Chegg, etc.) in doing homework problems, but this is not recommended as this often leads to an insufficient understanding of the material.

Student Handbook:

Students should refer to the current MSU Student Handbook and Activities Calendar for university policies on academic dishonesty, class attendance, student rights and activities. The Student Handbook can be found on the MSU website at Student Life, Dean of the Students.

[Student Handbook 2023-2024](#)

Campus Carry Statement:

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's webpage at

msutexas.edu/campus-carry

Active Shooter:

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit

[Safety / Emergency Procedures](#)

Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled "Run, Hide. Fight" which may be electronically accessed via the University Police department's webpage:

["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

Additional Student Resources:

[Click here](#)