

## Syllabus for Math 1010-90 – Intermediate Algebra Online

Instructor: Marilyn Keir JWB 212 Hours: See WebCT

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Recommended text: Text: *Intermediate Algebra*, 5th edition, by Larson and Hostetler (ISBN 9780547102177) – The bookstore has 50% guaranteed buyback program even on used textbooks (buy a used one for \$136 and receive \$90 at buyback: total cost \$46). They also carry a digital book that is about \$40 cheaper than a used book, but I can't tell what the resale policy is if there is any. Also, check online.

**THIS COURSE:** Algebra is a challenging subject. I will do everything I can to help you be successful but please realize success will also require extraordinary effort on your part. This is an online course, and as such, you will need to exercise lot of discipline and dedication in order to complete all the lessons and assignments in timely fashion.

**CONTENTS:** The essence of **Algebra** is to use variables instead of just numbers. This enables us to describe things in general rather than in particular, it helps us set up and solve problems, and it is instrumental in constructing a link between formulas and pictures which in turn much amplifies our problem solving ability. You don't need to understand all that follows, but for your information here is a list of topics we will cover:

- Manipulation of Algebraic Expressions such as  $3x+2y-5(x-3y)+5 = ?$
- Solution of linear equations such as  $6x-3(2-x)=5x+4 \Rightarrow x = ?$
- Solution of quadratic equations such as  $3x^2 - 2x - 5 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 5/3 \text{ or } x = -1$
- Solution of linear systems such as  $2x+3y=8 \text{ and } y-x = 1 \Rightarrow x=1, y=2$
- The concept of a function.  $f(x) = 3x-2 \Rightarrow f(-3) = ?$
- The Cartesian coordinate system and the graphs of equations and functions

**PREREQUISITES:** The prerequisite for this course is at least a C (preferably a B) in mathematics 990 or an Accuplacer (EA) score of 54 or better or University Math Placement score of 2 or better. Students are expected to already have basic algebra skills.

**HOMEWORK:** You will be assigned several problems for each lecture which are for your own practice. If you feel these are insufficient, please consult your book for a wider range of exercises. You are encouraged to work in groups on your assigned problems. It is important to keep up on the homework. If you get behind, the course will become overwhelming. Note that these assignments are for your benefit only, and are not to be collected by the instructor.

**WEBWORKS:** A weekly homework assignment will be given on WeBWorKs. You will be sent a link, userid and password during the first week of class. This is the online homework delivery system, and the first assignment will consist of an introduction to the WeBWorKs. WEBWORK assignments are due on Monday nights at midnight.

### STUDY TIPS:

1. Read a section from your book that corresponds to the lesson before watching it.
2. Watch the lesson, and take notes. Pause the video if you need more time to work on a problem
3. Work the assigned problems from the text as soon after the lecture as possible.
4. Stay on schedule. **WATCH THE CALENDAR.**
5. An ounce of understanding is worth a ton of memorization!

**QUIZZES, TESTS:** There will be a short quiz **each Friday** except for the days we have midterms. You will generally have 20 minutes to take the quiz and all day Friday and Saturday to access it. It will not be possible to go back to it - you will have to do it in one sitting. There will be two midterm exams and a final comprehensive exam at the end of the semester. Exams will be administered at a testing center at an institution of your choice. There will be a practice exam prior to each exam.

**TUTORING LAB:** T. Benny Rushing Mathematics Student Center (adjacent to JWB and LCB), RM 155  
 M - H 8am - 8pm, F 8am – 6pm, closed Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.  
 They are also offering group tutoring sessions. If you're interested, inquire at the [Tutoring Lab](#).  
 The University Tutoring Center, 330 SSB, offers inexpensive (\$6/hour) private tutoring. A list of private tutors is also available from the Math Department office.

**COMPUTER LAB:** Also in the T. Benny Rushing Mathematics Student Center, RM 155C.  
 M – H 8am – 8pm, F 8am – 6pm. You can print all the course materials there for free (if asked note that it is for your MATH1010 class). Link to [computer lab](#)

**TECHNOLOGY:** A scientific calculator is adequate for the needs of this class. No calculator will be allowed on any of the exams. Using one on the quizzes except where explicitly allowed will just decrease the likelihood that you will understand the mathematics. Quiz answers should NOT be calculator answers.

**GRADE:** The grade will be calculated by: Quizzes (15%), WeBWorKs, (15%) Midterms (40%) and Final (30%).  
 The grading scale is basically A/A- 100 - 90, B+/B/B- 89 - 80, C+/C/C- 70-70.  
 73% will be a C required to take the next class.

**GRADING SCALE:** The grade scale will be the usual:  
 A (93-100), A- (90-92), B+ (87-89), B (83-86), B- (80-82), C+ (77-79),  
 C (73-76), C- (70-72), D+ (67-69), D (63-66), D- (60-62), E (0-59).

<b>Exams (Thursday or Saturday)</b> Exam 1: 9/22 or 9/24 Exam 2: 11/3 or 11/5 <b>Final: 12/12; 3:30 – 5:30 in TBA</b> Sign up for exams at <a href="http://uonline.utah.edu">uonline.utah.edu</a>	<b>Other dates:</b> Drop date: 8/31 Withdraw date: 10/21	<b>WeBWorK due each Monday</b>
		<b>Online Quiz each Friday</b>

**Americans with Disabilities Act** requires that reasonable accommodations be made for students with physical, sensory, cognitive, systemic, learning, and psychiatric disabilities. Please contact me *at the beginning of the semester* to discuss any such accommodations for the course.