

Syllabus

Intermediate Algebra

MATH A105 Section 001

Spring 2018

Class Times	Monday and Wednesday 8:30-9:45 a.m.
Classroom	SSB 211
Instructor	Dr. Mark Fitch
Office	SSB 154P
Office Hours	Monday-Thursday 10:00 -11:15 a.m. See http://www.math.uaa.alaska.edu/~afmaf/classes for all available times.
Office Phone	786-1656
Email	mafitch@alaska.edu
Web	Blackboard: http://classes.alaska.edu/ Instructor: http://www.math.uaa.alaska.edu/~afmaf/classes
Textbook	<i>Beginning and Intermediate Algebra A Guided Approach</i> by Karr, Massey, and Gustafson 7 th edition (required)
Calculators	Calculators including apps on phones and laptops will be useful for exploration and checking computations. For quizzes and exams you may not use a communications device for your calculator. Calculators may be checked out of the library for short term use.
Web Access	You may find it useful to have an internet capable device in class for accessing Blackboard, videos, and pdf files.
Resources	Office hours: come by at your convenience or send email any time Math Tutoring Lab: SSB 170, hours posted on door and department website Learning Commons: SMH Blackboard: http://classes.alaska.edu/ Instructor's web site: http://www.math.uaa.alaska.edu/~afmaf/classes
Prerequisites	You need to be familiar with basic algebraic operations and be comfortable with the arithmetic of fractions.
Topics	Topics include expressions, equations and applications involving linear, quadratic, rational and radical functions; graphs of linear and quadratic functions; functions and their inverses; introduction to exponential and logarithmic functions; and systems of linear equations.
Goals	By the end of the appropriate section you should be able to combine, compose, evaluate and graph functions and inverse functions, demonstrate graphical competency for linear, quadratic, absolute value, rational and square root functions, graph and interpret exponential and logarithmic functions, and solve applied problems using appropriate algebraic techniques.
Instruction	Daily Lesson Purpose: The lesson is the presentation of new material. By completing the lesson you will learn new topics.

Assignment: View the video. Post any questions on the video. Work the included problem. If you are unable to complete the problem, ask a question by posting on the VoiceThread. If you can complete the question, bring it to class to submit. The lesson is found on Blackboard or can be accessed directly from VoiceThread (<https://voicethread.com>).

Note, you may work with other students and ask questions of the instructor when working on the lesson.

Due: Lessons must be completed before the class in which they are due.

Feedback: Questions on the lesson will be addressed online and during class.

Grading: If you are unable to complete the problem, your grade is based on viewing the videos and submitting an appropriate question. If you complete the problem, you will be graded on the correctness of the problem.

Class Time

Purpose: Practice problems provide an opportunity to realize questions, ask them, and develop skills at procedures. Be aware that most text book problems emphasize mechanical skills rather than understanding. As such they are not representative of test questions. Additional problems will be assigned to help you understand.

Assignment: You will work with the group to which you are assigned to complete the assigned problems. Those problems not completed during class must be finished before the next class.

Daily Homework

Purpose: Practice problems provide an opportunity to realize questions, ask them, and develop skills at procedures.

Assignment: Complete the assigned problems found online on Blackboard. Note this will include problems from the textbook and some you must download.

For problems not completed during class on which you have a question write the specific question. These questions will be answered during the next class as time permits or in writing when homework is returned.

Also answer the three summary questions listed on the Blackboard assignments page. Note you only answer these once per class.

Due: These problems will be collected at the beginning of each class.

Feedback: If any questions are written on the homework, these will be answered in class or in writing. No other problems will be reviewed.

Grading: Your work will be graded for completeness. At the end of the semester an allowance will be made for missed classes.

Daily Quiz Purpose: Quizzes test your grasp of the material and therefore provide you with feedback on your progress. They typically require recognition of patterns, not necessarily identical in appearance to homework problems. They may also point out nuances.

Assignment: At the beginning of class a short (approximately 5 minute) quiz over recent material will be given.

Feedback: If incorrect, the first, major wrong step in a problem will be noted with a note about the correct step if possible.

Grading: Your work will be graded for accuracy and presentation. At the end of the semester an allowance will be made for missed quizzes.

Exams Purpose: Exams provide you with an opportunity to demonstrate your mastery of mechanical skills and your understanding of the concepts. The latter are weighted more heavily in the grading.

Assignment: Exams will be given on the dates specified on Blackboard or at <http://www.math.uaa.alaska.edu/~afmaf/classes/math105/schedule.html>

Feedback: If incorrect, the first, major wrong step in a problem will be indicated with a note about the correct step if possible. Full solutions will be provided in a posted answer key.

Grading: Your work will be graded for accuracy and presentation.

Grading

Your grades will reflect your ability to perform the tasks outlined in the goals and to clearly explain how you accomplished the tasks. The explanation will be worth most of the credit for each problem. This means that the steps in a solution are more important than the result. Credit will be given for every correct step in a problem. You must also use correct notation. Just as misspelled words are not accepted in a writing assignment misused symbols or notations are not accepted in mathematics.

Assessments	Quizzes and Homework	20%
	Exams	15% × 4
	Final Exam	20%

Please see the assignment description sheet for details.

Homework and quizzes will be given during each class period. There will be four exams and a final exam. The final exam will be on May 4th from 7:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

If you have a certified learning disability, please inform the instructor so that the university sanctioned assistance can be provided.

Scale	A 90-100	Grades of C or higher indicate preparedness to progress to additional mathematics courses. Grades of B or A indicate an above average grasp of the material.
	B 80-89	
	C 70-79	
	D 60-69	
	F 0-59	

Expectations	Lessons	If you do not understand any part of a lesson or an assignment, you will ask for assistance before the assignment is due. You need to provide a specific description of the difficulty. Instructors cannot read your mind.
	Instructions	If you do not understand any instruction or a question, please ask before the work is due. An assignment may be submitted only once.
	Corrections	If you discover a mistake in any graded work, please bring it to the attention of the instructor as soon as possible.
	Incomplete Assignments	Lessons, homework, and quizzes not turned in on time receive no credit. Please arrange excused absences for exams before the exam if at all possible. If you cannot make arrangements before the exam, then the final exam grade will replace that exam score. If the university is closed for an emergency on an exam day, the exam will occur on the next class session.

Attendance Daily attendance is vital to success in this course. Some material is not covered in the textbook nor online materials.

If you will be required to miss class for university business, including but not limited to athletics and forensics, please inform the instructor at the beginning of the semester or session.

Failure to attend for more than 4 class periods may be regarded as withdrawal and a faculty initiated drop may be processed. Attendance is recorded by submission of the daily quiz or homework. Should the last date of your class attendance be required, it will be determined by the last date of any material submitted by you for recording in the class grade record. If you have evidence that your date of last attendance is otherwise, you must inform your instructor of such prior to the assignment of your final grade. The date of last attendance may impact financial aid.

Most graded assignments are returned at the beginning of class. If you miss this, you will need to come to the instructor's office to obtain the assignment. All assignments not collected by the final exam will be destroyed as required by FERPA.

Academic Honesty

Use of any communication device during an assessment is prohibited. The instructor will note when accessing the internet, calculation devices or other technology is needed for class. Audio devices may not be worn during any assessment.

Students are expected to know and follow the Student Code of Conduct (<https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/students/dean-of-students/student-conduct/code.cshtml>). If the instructor has reason to believe that plagiarism, cheating, or academic dishonesty, as defined in the Student Code of Conduct, has occurred, the matter will be referred to the Office of the Dean of Students. If there is a finding from the Dean of Students that plagiarism, cheating, or academic dishonesty has occurred, the student will receive a grade of zero for that assignment.

Non-Academic Assistance

The mission of the UAA CARE Team is to promote a safe and productive learning, living and working environment by addressing the needs of students. If you, or someone you know, needs support, is distressed, or exhibits concerning behavior help by making a referral to the CARE Team. Contact the CARE Team by: filling out a referral on <http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/CareTeam>; E-mail your concern to Care@uaa.alaska.edu; or call the Care Team phone number: 786-6065; if an emergency—call UPD or 911.

Courtesy

Courtesy in the classroom is important for learning. Remember students and instructors come from varied cultures and backgrounds: be mindful of others as you interact.