

West Los Angeles College --- Fall 2013
MATH 125 – Intermediate Algebra (section #1488)
MTWTh: 9:35 AM – 10:50 AM, Room: ATA 214

Instructor : Tanshee Cheng
Office Hours: Tu Th 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm in MSB-217 and also by appointment
Email : chengtt@wlaac.edu

Prerequisite :

Math 115 or 118 with a grade of C or better, or appropriate placement level demonstrated through the mathematics assessment process.

Text Book :

Intermediate Algebra, 11th edition., by Lial, Hornsby, McGinnis.

ISBN-13: 9780321715418

ISBN-10: 0321715411

Course Description:

Manipulative skills in algebra are developed and strengthened in the course. The topics include rational exponents, the complete number system of algebra, Algebraic and graphical solutions to linear and quadratic equations, logarithmic and exponential functions, elementary theory of equations and inequalities and conics. A wide variety of statement problems are included in the course.

Grades:

HW / Quizzes	10%
Tests	63% (3% extra credit)
Final	30%

Grading Cut-off:

90% - 100%	A
80% - 89.9%	B
70% - 79.9%	C
60% - 69.9%	D
59.9% - below	F

Homework:

It is very important to do your homework. This is a form of practice for your quizzes and exams. Homework problems will be assigned after the lecture. It will be handed in on the day of the test. **No Late homework will be accepted.** Copy all original problems except for word problems. Make your homework neat and show all logical steps. Use pencil. You will receive 0 credits for not showing your work and/or not using pencil. Each section's homework is worth 10 points.

Quizzes:

A quiz will be given on every Thursday. **No make-up quizzes.** Also expect a pop quiz on every class meeting. The pop quiz will be based on previous class lecture.

Test:

There will be six tests. All tests are closed book, closed notes and no calculator. Make-up test is given in cases of emergency upon the demonstration of the proof of emergency absences. **Otherwise, no make-up tests.** Test date will be announced in the class a week prior to the test date.

Final:

The final exam is cumulative. The exam is closed book and closed notes. Final exam is mandatory, and failure to attend will result in a "F".

Calculators:

You may use the calculator on the final, but not on the tests. I will teach how to use calculator for some function. So you should get a scientific (optional: graphing) calculator with statistical capability. **You cannot use your cell phone as calculator.**

Attendance:

Each time you are late or leave early from class will count as a 1/2 of absence. More than 4 absences may result in being dropped from the class. However, it is student's responsibility to drop the class if he/she decides to withdraw from the class.

Academic Honesty:

Any form of dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be an automatic 0 on that quiz, test, and final, and will report to the college.

DSP&S:

If you are a student with special needs, then you have to inform me and a DSP&S representative by no later than beginning of second week.

Course SLOs:

1. Select and use appropriate algebraic techniques to solve a wide variety of equations and systems of equations.
2. Analyze, model, and solve application problems including those involving variation.
3. Construct and analyze graphs of functions, inequalities, and conic sections.

Math Program SLOs:

- 1.) Apply quantitative thinking processes using basic mathematical operations to solve common academic, workplace, and family problems. (Theme: mathematical operations)
- 2.) Analyze and interpret spatial and graphic data (schedules, maps, and tables, graphs) to plan and organize daily routines. (Theme: spatial and graphic data).
- 3.) Use mathematical tools essential for analyzing quantitative problems and for producing solutions. (Theme: mathematical tools)
- 4.) Apply advanced mathematical concepts and tools (algebra, calculus) essential in upper division academic work and/or workplace tasks. (Theme: advanced mathematical operations—algebra, calculus)
- 5.) Select appropriate math strategies for solving and handling real life problems involving finance, economics, and family issues. (Theme: mathematical problem-solving)

Specific SLOs:

Upon successful completion of the course, the students will be able to (1) Simplify rational, radical, exponents, and logarithmic expressions, (2) Solve quadratic equations and inequalities, absolute value equations and inequalities, rational equations, radical equations, and logarithmic equations, (3) Graph functions and transformations, and find the domain and range of the functions, (4) Analyze real world application problems with mathematical model and interpret mathematical conclusion to real-world interdiction. At last the students are expected to be able show and explain their work in a clear, well-organized form.

Important Dates:

Last Day to add	: 09/06/2013	
Drop Deadlines	: without W: 09/06/2013	with W: 11/15/2013
Final	: Dec 11 , 2013	10:15 am – 12:15 pm