

West Los Angeles College – Winter 2014
Math 123A – Elementary and Intermediate Algebra 1 (#4478)
MTWRF: 7.00 - 9.50pm · Rm: MSA-202

Instructor: Thomas Harjuno

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Alternate way to get to the course webpage:

1. Go to: <http://www.harjunoxie.com/>

2. Then click on my name on the menu, you will get to <http://www.harjunoxie.com/harjuno/>

This page has some information about ‘My Teaching Style’ and ‘Articles to Read’, it is under ‘Teaching’ on the menu. Make sure you read it before proceeding with me in this course.

3. Under West Los Angeles College, click “Math 123A: Elementary and Intermediate Algebra 1”

Textbook: Beginning and Intermediate Algebra, 5th edition, by McGinnis, Hornsby, Lial.

Prerequisite:

The completion of Math 110 or Math 112 with a grade of "C" or better. Or, equivalent preparation and a satisfactory score on the placement test.

Course Descriptions:

First of three modules for Math 123 covering elementary algebra topics such as properties and operations with real numbers, addition, subtraction, multiplication of algebraic expressions, solution of linear equations and inequalities. Solution of word problems involving linear equations and inequalities.

Grading:

Quizzes	15%	
Test 1	18%	Jan 16, 2014
Test 2	18%	Jan 27, 2014
Test 3	18%	Feb 5, 2014, No make-up Test!
Final	33%	Feb 7, 2014; Comprehensive.
Total	102%	

Grading Cut-off: A - 90% - B - 79% - C - 68% - D - 63% - F

Important Dates:

Last day to add: 01/08/14

Last day to drop without fee: 01/08/14

Last day to drop without W: 01/08/14

Last day to drop with W: 01/31/14

Academic Dishonesty:

Any form of dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be an automatic 0 on that quiz/test/Final and reported to the College. The student with one dishonesty record in this course needs to score at least 80% to receive a C (and no better than a C).

Notes:

1. Having a textbook is a MUST. No one without textbook ever pass my class.
 2. Attendance is so important such that you should consider taking this class in regular semester if you will miss more than two meetings. Even coming late or leaving early will put your progress in great jeopardy. Lesson from the past tells that students missing more than 2 meetings EXTREMELY HARDLY pass my class.
 3. I consider 10-30 minute tardy as half-absence, more than 30 minute tardy as full-absence. Three absences may VERY LIKELY result in being dropped.
 4. Each student should review the material discussed in the previous session and read-in-advance the next-session material. General rule-of-thumb says that you should dedicate at least 2 off-class hours for each in-class hour. You surely need much more when it comes to Tests or Final.
 5. No make-up Quiz, Test, nor Final; exception for Test or Final is ONLY given in case of emergency upon the demonstration of the proof of emergency OR unavoidable, legitimate, documented absence. Only one make-up Test/Final will be allowed. I don't drop any Test. NO MAKE-UP PROVIDED FOR TEST 3!
 6. Expect quiz on each meeting. I drop 1 lowest quiz.
 7. No, I don't curve your grade!
 8. Studying hard SOMETIMES results in a good grade, but NEVER expecting a good grade if you don't.
 9. Testing policy: close book, close note, no calculator, and close neighborhood!!!
 10. WARNING FOR REPEATING STUDENTS: Since you're repeating, you may have seen these materials in the past. However, you should not (even think to) skip classes on the topics you think you've mastered. Instead, you should utilize your familiarity for a more in-depth understanding. While repeating may be excusable for your academic record, THREE-PEATING is NEVER understood the same way. And, I don't treat you different from non-repeating students.
 11. NO MAKE-UP PROVIDED FOR TEST 3!
 12. You may be recorded during any Quiz, Test, and Final.
- I recommend you to take at least 5 hours to study every day during this winter. It follows "2 off-class hours for each in-class hour" recommendation. By the end of this course, this study style should have already been a habit instead of merely a burden. I will PURPOSELY make this course hard enough so that you can develop this habit within a few days, in addition to provide you a STRONG background to ENJOY the next Math course.

Classroom Etiquettes:

1. No phone calls, no texting while you are in class.
2. If you come late and/or if you need to leave early do so quietly. Do not disturb the class and me.
3. Do not come in-and-out the classroom unnecessarily.

Disabilities:

Students with disabilities who need accommodations should alert the instructor, and contact Disabled Students Program & Services located in SSB-320 for verification of disability.

WARNING:

I may lock the door 10 minutes after the class starts. And, if so, I will not allow late students to come in and I will not allow students who left the class to come back in.

Course SLOs

At end of the course, the successful student will be able to:

1. Perform basic operations on rational numbers and polynomials, including correct use of order of operations.
2. Use appropriate techniques to solve linear and factorable quadratic equations and linear inequalities.
3. Write, graph linear equations in two variables; analyze slope and Intercepts.
4. Factor polynomials.