

COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN NEVADA

Math 093--Prealgebra--3 credits

Syllabus Spring 2010--page 1

INSTRUCTOR: Michelle Wyatt

OFFICE: Cheyenne campus, Room 1029 (across from the planetarium), Office D

PHONE: 651-4218 (If you leave me a message after I have left for the day, I will get it the next class day. If you leave a message Thursday after I have left, I will get that Monday.) Math Office: 651-4029

E-MAIL: michelle.wyatt@csn.edu (good way to communicate, especially after I have left for the day)

OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; you can also stop in MW 2 to 3 p.m. or TR 12:15 to 1:15 p.m.; appointments as arranged

WEBSITE: www.nevada.edu/~wyatt (If that doesn't work, go to www.csn.edu/math and scroll down until you find my name; then click on Webpage.)

Dear Student:

I love teaching this class, and I am very excited about this semester. Please feel free to call me Michelle, Mrs. Wyatt, or Professor Wyatt (but not Dr. Wyatt since I haven't earned the PhD). I will eventually learn your names, but please be patient while I am learning :) I hope you are very successful! I would love to work with you one-on-one, but that isn't possible during class time. So I would love to see you during my office hours. Please feel free to stop in to get extra help.

If you've never done well in math, now is your chance to change all that. **Do things differently** this semester and see how much you can learn. Prealgebra is the foundation for all other algebra courses. There is great material in this course, and you need to thoroughly understand all these concepts before you go on to other math courses.

If you are taking this class and it's a review for you, the class may be too easy for you. I highly recommend you take the diagnostic test (in the Testing Center) to see if you can take Math 95 instead. However, if you stay in this class and you find it is too easy, **you cannot interrupt the class because you're bored!!** You can work ahead in the prealgebra book, you can work on other material, you can read a book; **you cannot disrupt or distract.**

I am serious about you learning this material, and there can be no distractions so **TURN OFF ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES!** (No iPods, no mp3 players, no cell phones, etc.) As well, I have high standards on the tests I give. I want you to do well enough to be prepared for the next math class. You must earn a C or higher (70% or higher) to go on to the next class. **Additionally, you must pass the final exam with a 60% or higher, no partial credit, in order to earn a C or higher in the course.** The only way to do well is to PRACTICE LIKE CRAZY--and to make sure you understand everything as you go along. If you have questions, you need to ask during class or get help outside of class. This syllabus and course outline are designed to help you progress through the course. After you read the syllabus, let me know if you have any questions. I'm looking forward to the semester, and I hope you are too.

Michelle Wyatt

MY SCHEDULE:

MW: 8 to 9:20 a.m.--Math 96
9:30 to 10:50 a.m.--Math 93
11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.--Office Hours
12:30 to 1:50 p.m.--Math 96
2 to 3 p.m.--Asst Chair Duties

TR: 8 to 9:20 a.m.--Math 95
9:30 to 10:50 a.m.--Math 95
11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.--Office Hours
12:15 to 1:15 p.m.--Asst Chair Duties

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TEXTBOOK: *Prealgebra*, 5th Edition, by Wyatt

PREREQUISITES & TRANSFERABILITY: Completion of Math 91 or placement test required. Ability to perform basic arithmetic operations is assumed. Course is not transferable.

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES: A basic course intended to review arithmetic and to preview elementary algebra. Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Manipulate whole numbers, fractions, decimals, percent
2. Use order of operations
3. Simplify algebraic expressions
4. Evaluate algebraic expressions
5. Solve linear equations in one variable
6. Graph ordered pairs on a coordinate axis
7. Graph linear equations in two variables on a coordinate axis
8. Obtain area and perimeter of simple geometric shapes
9. Apply and extend concepts

ATTENDANCE: You are strongly encouraged to attend each class meeting, and attendance will be taken. There will be a quiz almost every class. You CANNOT be absent on a test day because **there are no make-up tests!**

HOMEWORK and CLASS NOTES: Homework is designed to help you understand the concepts and should help you prepare for your tests. It is VERY important that you ask questions on any material from the homework that you don't understand! Don't wait until you feel overwhelmed; ask immediately. You need to show me your homework at every test (you can show it to me right before the review day, on the review day, or on the test day). Each homework assignment is worth two points. There are 38 sections of homework so there are 76 points for homework.

At the top of each homework assignment in your notebook, write the section number (for example, Sect 1.1 for Chapter 1 Section 1, Sect 1.2 for Ch 1 Sect 2, Sect 1.3 for Ch 1 Sect 3, etc). Also write the page number. Then show any work and the result. Be neat! Take pride in your work!

Stay organized with your class notes. Date them and put the section number at the top. You want to be able to refer to your notes for your homework and in your next math course. Prealgebra sets the foundation for your future algebra courses!

CLASS BEHAVIOR: I expect you to pay attention during class-time, to not hold private conversations with other students, and to not disrupt the classroom in any way. **I am serious about your learning; I don't want any disruptions or distractions!** If you are disruptive, you can be removed from the classroom. Repetition of the offense can result in expulsion from the course.

All cell phones, beepers, pagers, etc. should be turned off during class time. This is especially important on test days!

During class, you will be given notes over new material. You will also be given some time to ask questions about previous homework; that time may be limited so new material can be covered.

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HONESTY: I assume honesty on the part of all students. However, cheating, plagiarism and other acts of academic dishonesty are held as serious offenses. Instructors have the responsibility to report any such incident in writing to the administration. The student involved may flunk the course and could be expelled from the College.

REQUIRED: Access to a computer. You will need to download and/or print certain files as indicated on the outline.

TESTS: You will have quizzes and in-class tests. Be sure to study well for the in-class tests. Remember, on the final exam, there is no partial credit. On in-class tests, give me a one-week turn around time for grading.

You cannot use a calculator on any of the in-class tests nor on the final exam. There is no partial credit on the final exam, and there is very little partial credit on any in-class tests.

GRADING & GRADING SCALE: At the end of the semester, grades will be computed based on a point system – **provided you pass the final exam with a 60% or higher (no partial credit)! You must earn at least 300 points out of 500 points on the final exam in order to earn a C or higher in the course.**

If you pass the final exam, the number of points you earn will be divided by the total possible points to give a percentage grade. Possible points:

38 assignments at 2 points each = 76 points

17 quizzes at 8 points each = 136 points

Test 1 = 120 points

Test 2 = 180 points

Test 3 = 240 points

Final = 500 points

Total points = 1252 points

Then that percentage grade will be converted to a letter grade, using the following scale:

93-100%	A	78- 79%	C+	Below 60%	F
90- 92%	A -	70- 77%	C		
88- 89%	B+	68- 69%	D+		
83- 87%	B	63- 67%	D		
80- 82%	B -	60- 62%	D -		

If you get below 60% (below 300 points) on the final exam, your grade will be lower than a C.

Since Mathematics courses by nature require strong foundations, all examinations in this course will be cumulative in nature. You must know all background material for this course, whether covered in the course material or not. **IF YOU JUST QUIT ATTENDING AND DO NOT OFFICIALLY WITHDRAW, YOUR GRADE WILL BE AN F.** If you prefer a W, either officially withdraw or ask me to withdraw you. At the end of the semester if you are not earning the grade you would like to be earning, you can ask me to give you a W (withdrawal) grade.

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IMPORTANT DATES:

January 25 – last day to change audit to credit with instructor approval
February 15 – President’s Day – no classes
March 15 through 21 – Spring Recess – no classes
March 29 – last day to officially withdraw from a class with grade of W
March 29 – last day to change from credit to audit grade in person only
May 9 through 15 – Finals
May 17 – Commencement

SAFETY: Please note emergency exits. Please inform instructor of any environmental hazards. A copy of the Mathematics departmental safety plan is on file at the Mathematics department office at the Cheyenne campus.

COLLEGE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

From the DRC: “If you have a documented disability that may require assistance, you will need to contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) for coordination of your academic accommodations. The DRC is located in Student Services on each campus. The phone numbers are Cheyenne 651-4045, Henderson 651-3795, and West Charleston 651- 5644.

For those students that would like to perform community service or earn extra money, stop by the DRC to fill out a job interest card. This office hires students as note takers, proctors, scribes, and lab assistants as needed."

From the Mathematics Department: Students may also get extra help by going to the Science and Math Resource Lab. On the Cheyenne campus, the lab is in room 2050.

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Course Outline

Don't be absent on an in-class test day--there will be no make-up tests! Instead, the grade you earn on the final exam will be the grade for the missed test. **The final exam MUST be taken; if you miss the final, you receive 0%.** As you can see, I don't recommend being absent on test days. If an emergency arises, you must call me at 651-4218. I must speak with you about your taking the test. If you communicate with me and we make arrangements, then I don't consider it a make-up test. **Remember, you must PASS the final exam with a 60% or higher, no partial credit, in order to receive a grade of C or higher in the course.**

The Additional Practice (optional) homework is highly recommended! The more you practice, the better.

<u>Class</u>	<u>MW</u>	<u>During Class</u>	<u>Assignment After Class</u>
1	1/20	Sect 1.1 thru 1.3	p 10: 1-13 p 15: 1-24 p 19: 1-23
2	1/25	Sect 1.4 and 1.5	p 22: 1-21 p 27: 1-35 (36-44 optional) Quiz #1
3	1/27	Sect 1.6 and 2a.1	p 34: 1-40 p 49: 1-30 Quiz #2
4	2/1	Sect 2a.2 and 2a.3	p 54: 1-36 p 60: 1-44 (45-68 optional) Quiz #3 Review Sheet for Test #1 (go to www.nevada.edu/~wyatt to download/print)
5	2/3	Sect 2a.4 and 2a.5	p 67: 1-26 p 72: 1-27 Quiz #4
6	2/8	Review Day	Study for Test #1
7	2/10	Comprehensive Test #1 (120 points) through Day 6	
8	2/17	Sect 2b.1 and 2b.2	p 91: 1-44 p 95: 1-42 (43-68 optional)
9	2/22	Sect 2b.3 and 2b.4	p 103: 1-41 (42-77 optional) p 110: 1-40 Quiz #5

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<u>Class</u>	<u>MW</u>	<u>During Class</u>	<u>Assignment After Class</u>
10	2/24	Sect 2b.5 and 2b.6	p 115: 1-30 p 121: 1-40 Quiz #6
11	3/1	Sect 2b.7 and 3.1	p 126: 1-20 p 143: 1-30 Quiz #7
12	3/3	Sect 3.2	p 150: 1-25 Quiz #8
13	3/8	Sect 3.3	p 158: 1-17 Quiz #9 Review Sheet for Test #2 (go to www.nevada.edu/~wyatt to download/print)
14	3/10	Sect 3.4 and 3.5	p 166: 1-26 p 172: 1-32
15	3/22	Prime Factors Review Day	WS on Prime Factors Study for Test #2
16	3/24	Comprehensive Test #2 (180 points) through Day 15	
17	3/29	Sect 4.1 Sect 4.2	p 200: 1-30 (31-60 optional) p 208: 1-32 (33-57 optional)
18	3/31	Sect 4.3	p 221: 1-51 (52-75 optional) Quiz #10
19	4/5	Sect 4.4	p 230: 1-28 (29-40 optional) Quiz #11
20	4/7	Sect 4.5	p 241: 1-39 odd Quiz #12 Review Sheet for Test #3 (go to www.nevada.edu/~wyatt to download/print)
21	4/12	More on 4.5	p 241: 2-40 even, 41-46 all (47-62 optional) Handout on Fraction Rules (go to www.nevada.edu/~wyatt to download/print) Quiz #13
22	4/14	If you need more practice: Review Day	p 255: 1-44 Study for Test #3

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<u>Class</u>	<u>MW</u>	<u>During Class</u>	<u>Assignment After Class</u>
23	4/19	Comprehensive Test #3 (240 points) through Day 22	
24	4/21	Sect 5.1 and 5.2	p 271: 1-23 p 276: 1-8 (9-26 optional)
25	4/26	Sect 5.3, 5.4, and 5.5	p 283: 1-20 p 289: 1-30 p 295: 1-25 Quiz #14
26	4/28	Sect 6.1	p 312: 1-52 Quiz #15
27	5/3	Sect 6.2 and 6.3	p 319: 1-45 p 326: 1-40 Quiz #16 Review Sheet for Final Exam (go to www.nevada.edu/~wyatt to download/print)

You will need graph paper for Chapter 7!

28	5/5	Sect 7.1 and 7.2	p 346: 1-45 p 355: 1-32 Quiz #17
29	5/10	Review Day	Study for the Final Exam
30	5/12	Comprehensive Final Exam (500 points) through Day 29 -- you must pass the final with 60% or higher (300 points or higher), no partial credit, to earn a C or higher in the course.	

The instructor reserves the right to modify the above schedule as necessary. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of any changes made.