

COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN NEVADA
Math 95--Elementary Algebra--3 credits
Syllabus Fall 2009--page 1

INSTRUCTOR: Michelle Wyatt

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

PHONE: 651-4218. Math Office: 651-4029

E-MAIL: michelle.wyatt@csn.edu

OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.; appointments as arranged.

WEBSITE: www.nevada.edu/~wyatt

Dear Student:

I love teaching this class, and I am very excited about this semester. I hope you are very successful! I would love to be able to work with each of you one-on-one during class, but we don't have the time for that. So I would love to see you during my office hours. Please feel free to stop in to get extra help.

To do well in this class, you have to be ready for it. You need to have done very well in Math 93 Prealgebra, and you need to thoroughly understand positive/negative numbers, combining and distributive, and solving equations. If you were placed into Math 95 by the placement test and you don't understand what we go over the first day, you need to take Math 93 before you take Math 95. If you barely got through Math 93 Prealgebra, I recommend you re-take Math 93 and really conquer the material! This class is faster-paced and more in-depth than Prealgebra. It's a much tougher course! Be prepared to spend a lot of time to understand THIS course.

I am serious about you learning this material, and I have high standards on the tests I give. I want you to do well enough to be prepared for the next math class, so you need to make a C or better in this class to make progress to the next class! 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

TEXTBOOK: *Beginning and Intermediate Algebra for College Students*, 4th Edition, by Lial, Hornsby and McGinnis.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: A course in the fundamental operations of real numbers, solving linear equations in one variable, polynomials, quadratic equations in one variable, and introduction to graphing. Intended to provide a basic foundation for future mathematics needed in fields of business, economics, engineering and related fields. Strong background in fractions and positive and negative numbers is HIGHLY recommended.

Math 95

Section 001 (46251), Room 1069

Section 003 (46255), Room 1069

TR 8:00 - 9:20 am

TR 9:30 - 10:50 am

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COURSE OBJECTIVES: Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Work with real numbers, exponents, and polynomial arithmetic.
2. Solve linear equations and inequalities
3. Factor polynomials and solve equations by factoring
4. Solve absolute value equations and inequalities
5. Graph linear equations in two variables
6. Apply and extend all concepts

PREREQUISITES & TRANSFERABILITY: Math 093 with a grade of C or better; or a satisfactory ACT/SAT/Placement Test score. Ability to solve equations and to use positive/negative numbers are both assumed. Course is not transferable.

REQUIRED: Scientific calculator required. I will be using the Texas Instruments TI 30Xa because it is powerful but not too expensive. A graphing calculator is okay if you already know how to use it. NO symbolic algebra calculators (no TI 89 or TI 92 or anything else using a keyboard) are allowed because they give you a false sense of security. It is better for you to learn the algebraic manipulations on your own and use your calculator for arithmetic. You also cannot use a calculator that is part of a cell phone, PDA, computer, etc. Any calculator used must be a stand-alone calculator!

HANDOUTS AND WORKSHEETS: If I give you a handout or a worksheet, it's to further clarify material from the book. Please read it and/or work any exercises included on it.

ATTENDANCE: You are strongly encouraged to attend each class meeting and attendance will be taken. If you do not attend class, you are STILL expected to do the homework (read the book!) and be prepared for the tests. You CANNOT be absent on a test day because **there are no make-up tests!**

HOMEWORK: 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. I do not pick up daily homework. However, if you would like to keep a homework notebook, you could earn up to 100 points for your homework. This is how that would work:

During the last 2 weeks of the semester, show me your homework notebook. Points will be assigned depending on the number of assignments completed. For example, 92% of assignments completed = 92 points.

At the end of the semester, those who kept homework notebooks would have 100 more total points in their overall semester point totals.

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!

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During class, you will be given notes over new material. You will also be given some time to ask questions about previous homework assignments; however, that time may be limited so new material can be covered. The examples in your book become very important to your learning.

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.

TESTS: You will have some take-home tests and some in-class tests which will be comprehensive. The in-class tests will be worth MANY more points than take-home tests and will have more of an effect on your overall semester grade, so study well for those. On take-home tests, I encourage you to work with a classmate (if you go to tutoring with your test, ask the tutors to make up problems similar to what is on the test so you can truly understand concepts). I don't want you to copy each other's work, but I do want you to compare so you can make corrections before turning the take-home tests in for grading. I think you will learn more by talking to each other about the material. **Be sure to stay caught up with your homework even when you are also working on a take-home test.**

On in-class tests, give me a one-week turn around time for grading.

GRADING & GRADING SCALE: At the end of the semester, grades will be computed based on a point system. Everything you turn in will be graded on a point system. The number of points you obtain will be divided by the total possible to give a percentage grade. 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 -		

Since Mathematics courses 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.

IMPORTANT DATES:

September 7 – Labor Day – no classes
September 21 – last day to change audit to credit with instructor approval
October 30 – Nevada Day – no classes
November 8 – last day to officially withdraw from a class with grade of W
November 9 – last day to change from credit to audit grade in person only
November 11 – Veteran's Day – no classes
November 26 through 29 – Thanksgiving Break – no classes
December 13 through 19 – Finals

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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. Ask your instructor for the location and times.

NOTES: Students are expected to take notes, complete homework, ask questions as needed, schedule appointments for extra help as needed, work with a tutor as needed. You are expected to "wrestle" with the material and not give up. Form study groups to help yourselves understand the material. You will get out of the class what you put into it!

For homework, I recommend a separate notebook since those will be picked up at the end of the semester. At the beginning of each homework assignment, write the chapter and section number on the homework (for example, Ch 2, Sect 3--which I would abbreviate as Sect 2.3 as I do on the outline) and also the page number. Write the problem, show your work, write the answer. Be neat! Take pride in your work! You want to be able to follow your thinking when you reference this in your next math class.

I also recommend a notebook for class notes. Class notes should be dated and titled so that you know what the topic for each day includes. You need a folder for all class hand-outs, quizzes, and tests. You want to be able to quickly find and use the material from class.

Class notes are given to help you guide your learning. Some people, especially those who are learning algebra for the first time, will need to work each example several times before tackling the homework problems. That's what class notes are designed to do--give you something to practice until you understand what is going on. While you practice the class notes, you should be asking yourself why what you are doing is logical. You have to teach yourself why processes and procedures make sense. Practice until problems make sense to you. THEN you should begin your homework exercises. As you work, keep thinking about why each step is sensible and logical. To learn math well and retain it, you need to PRACTICE LIKE CRAZY!!

Above all, you are going to be asked to THINK. Learning algebra can be a very rewarding experience, but you do have to put in the time, effort, and thinking necessary.

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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 before the test is given back to the class. Once the test is given back to the class, the grade you earn on the final exam is the grade for the missed test.

If you miss a class, you need to read the book, get someone's notes, and do the homework. You must stay caught up!

If you have never conquered the material from the first day of class, you should withdraw from this course and take Math 93 Prealgebra. This course assumes you know the prerequisite material!

If I assign you an even-numbered problem to work, the answer is included on this outline. The odd-numbered problems have the answers in the back of the book.

<u>Class</u>	<u>TTh</u>	<u>During Class</u>	<u>Assignment After Class</u>
1	9/1	Review Prealgebra Sect 1.1 Sect 1.2 Sect 1.3 Sect 1.5 Sect 1.6 Sect 1.7 Sect 1.8 Sect 2.1 Sect 2.2 Sect 2.3	p 11: 25, 37, 45, 55, 57, 65 p 22: 23, 25, 29, 31, 33, 37, 39, 41, 43 p 29: 23, 27 p 49: 7-21 odd, 29, 41-57 odd, 65-71 odd p 63: 11-21 odd, 33-47 odd, 49-59 odd, 65 p 75: 43, 57-63 odd, 75-79 odd p 81: 39, 43, 57, 65-73 odd p 100: 5, 9, 13, 29, 57, 59, 61 p 107: 23, 25, 59 p 115: 5-23 odd
2	9/3	Sect 2.4	p 126: 5, 7, 11, 13, 15, 17, 27, 33, 47, 49, 51, 53
3	9/8	Sect 2.5 and 2.6	p 138: 13-21 odd, 33, 39, 41, 43, 45, 63-79 odd p 146: 3, 5, 23, 25, 29-55 odd, 61, 65 (read the example above 65 to help) Test #1 handed out
4	9/10	Sect 2.7	p 157: 1, 3, 5, 15, 17, 19, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28 Answer: 26. $x = \$6000$ at 4% $x + 3000 = \$9000$ at 6% 28. $x = \$40,000$ at 3% $2x + 30000 = \$110000$ at 4%

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Class	TTh	During Class	Assignment After Class
5	9/15	Turn in Test #1 Finish Sect 2.7 Sect 2.8	p 160: 29, 32 Answer: 32. $x = 372$ adult tickets $600 - x = 228$ children tickets p 174: 1-16 all, 19, 57-60 all Answers: 2. the first uses a bracket to show -7 is part of the solution; the second uses a parenthesis to show -7 is NOT part of the solution 4. $x \geq -4$ 6. $x < 4$ 8. $(-\infty, -11]$ 10. $(-\infty, 3)$ 12. $(5, \infty)$ 14. $[3, 5]$ 16. $[-3, 5)$ 58. $[-1, 2)$ 60. $[-1, 2]$
6	9/17	Finish Sect 2.8	p 174: 21-25 odd, 41-55 odd, 61-71 odd Test #2 handed out
7	9/22	Sect 9.1	p 626: 7, 9, 13, 15-61 odd Review Sheet for Test #3 handed out
8	9/24	Turn in Test #2 Sect 9.2	p 635: 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, 29, 33, 37, 41, 45, 49, 53, 57, 61, 65, 67, 69, 79, 81, 95 Handout on Absolute Value
9	9/29	Finish Sect 9.2	p 635: 11, 15, 19, 23, 27, 31, 35, 39, 43, 47, 51, 55
10	10/1	Review Day	
11	10/6	Comprehensive Test #3 (in-class) through Day 10	
You will need graph paper for Day 12.			
12	10/8	Sect 3.1 and 3.2	p 202: 19, 21, 31, 33, 41, 50, 51-59 odd Answers: 50. A(2, 5) B(-2, 2) C(-5, 5) D(-6, -2) E(0, -1) p 214: 1, 3, 5, 17-25 odd

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Class	TTh	During Class	Assignment After Class
13	10/13	Finish Sect 3.2	p 215: 33-51 odd
14	10/15	Sect 4.1	p 261: 5, 9, 13, 15, 17, 19, 25-79 odd, 91
15	10/20	Sect 4.2	p 270: 1-59 odd, 63, 67, 74 Answer: 74. $\frac{1}{m^5 n^6}$ Test #4 handed out
16	10/22	Sect 4.3 and 4.4	p 278: 13-31 odd, 33, 37, 43, 45 p 289: 29-39 odd, 43, 45, 51, 53, 59, 63, 65, 67, 73, 75, 77, 89, 91, 93 Review Sheet for Test #5 handed out
17	10/27	Turn in Test #4 Sect 4.5 and 4.6	p 297: 3-9 odd, 15, 19, 25, 33, 37-47 odd, 63-75 odd p 303: 3-11 odd, 25-33 odd, 43
18	10/29	Sect 4.7	p 312: 9, 13, 21, 27, 39, 43, 47, 49, 51, 57, 63 Handout on Long Division
19	11/3	Review Day	
20	11/5	Comprehensive Test #5 (in-class) through Day 19	

DO NOT BE ABSENT FOR CHAPTER 5 ON FACTORING, ESPECIALLY FOR SECTION 5.3 (very important)!!!

21	11/10	Sect 5.1	p 335: 35-57 odd, read the example above #59, 59-63 odd, 67-75 odd
22	11/12	Sect 5.2	p 341: 11-21, use trial and error 23, 27, 31, 35, 43, 47, 51, 55, use grouping
		Sect 5.3	p 348: 21, use trial and error 23-35 odd, use grouping Handout on Factor by Grouping (go to www.nevada.edu/~wyatt to download/print)

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Class	TTh	During Class	Assignment After Class
23	11/17	Sect 5.2 Sect 5.3	p 341: 25, 29, 33, 37, 45, 49, 53, 57, use bottoms up p 348: 23-35, use bottoms up 37-51, use trial and error or use grouping or use bottoms up 57, 59, 67, your choice of how to factor Handout on Bottoms Up Factoring (go to www.nevada.edu/~wyatt to download/print)
24	11/19	Sect 5.4	p 356: 1, 3, 7-29 odd, 33, 35, 41, 43, 45, 59-65 all Answers: 60. $(m - 2)(m^2 + 2m + 4)$ 62. $(b + 1)(b^2 - b + 1)$ 64. $(4y - 3)(16y^2 + 12y + 9)$ Test #6 handed out
25	11/24	Review Factoring	p 359: 1-39 odd Review for Test #7 handed out
26	12/1	Turn in Test #6 Sect 5.5	p 366: 27-51 odd, 57, 65, 67
27	12/3	Sect 5.6	WS on Quadratic Word Problems
28	12/8	Review Day	Review for Final Exam handed out
29	12/10	Test #7 (in-class) over Chapter 5 only (days 21-28)	
30	12/15	Review Day All Homework due	
31	12/17	Comprehensive Final Exam (in-class) through Day 30	

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.