Math 111 - College Algebra (14251)

Instructor: Dan Raies  
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Office Hours: MWF 12:00pm to 12:50pm  
Class Time: MTWF 2:00pm to 2:50pm  
Class Room: MWF Peterson 107; T Peterson 103

Course Materials

The text that we will be following is *Functions Modeling Change for the University of Oregon*, by Connally, Hughes-Hallett, Gleason, et al. While the text is not required, it is highly recommended. There is also a text by the same author called *Functions Modeling Change* which is not specific to the University of Oregon. This text is fine although it is considerably more expensive and does not include a student solution manual.

A scientific calculator (or higher) will be required on exams. Please be aware, however, that cell phones, ipods, laptops, and similar devices cannot be used during tests. The primary function of the device that you use on exams must be a calculator.

Grades

Final grades are determined according to the standard scale with pluses and minuses given at my discretion. The graded materials throughout the course are weighted as follows:

- **Homework**: 15%  
- **Quizzes**: 25%  
- **Midterm 1**: 15%  
- **Midterm 2**: 15%  
- **Final Exam**: 30%

Keep in mind that grades are not competitive; one student’s success in no way affects any other student’s grade. I encourage students to work and study together.

Homework

All homework will be completed online on WebWork. Assignments will generally be due on Friday before class and will be assigned periodically as the lectures progress through the sections. There is more on WebWork later in the syllabus.

Quizzes

There is a readiness quiz which must be completed on WebWork at the beginning of the term. This is the only quiz of the entire term which must be done on WebWork.

There will be a short quiz every day at the beginning of class except on exam days. When you come into class there will be a problem on the board and about five minutes into class I will collect your solutions
to the problem. Each quiz will be worth five points and at the end of the term I will scale down the total number of quiz points to 25% of the total course grade.

There will be days when you have to miss class or come in late and everyone has a bad day every now and then. To protect against this I will calculate your quiz grade by counting your total accumulated quiz points out of 89% of the possible quiz points. As an example, if, by the end of the term, there are 200 quiz points and you have attained 152 of them then your overall quiz grade will be $152/178$ (because 178 is 89% of 200). Points above the possible points can be used for extra credit. In the above example, for instance, if you had instead attained 192 of the possible quiz points then your overall quiz grade would have been $192/178$.

**Exams**

There will be two midterm exams which will are tentatively scheduled for the end of weeks four and eight. I will adjust these dates depending on the rate at which we progress through the material. Our class’ final exam will be be December 3rd at 3:15pm. Remember to bring a calculator to these exams.

**Missed Tests and Assignments**

There will be no make-up quizzes given. Keep in mind that I have allotted extra quiz points, in part, to account for missed quizzes.

Unless there are documented and extreme circumstances, no late homework will be accepted and no make-up exams will be given. **In the event that you need such an exception, please provide documentation. I will check.** However, if you would like to take an exam early for any reason then I will be happy to arrange that. I will need three days notice in advance of the day that you wish to take the exam if you’d like to take it early. Keep in mind that if you take an exam early you might not get to see all of the material in class depending on when things are scheduled.

**Contacting Me**

The best way to contact me is by email. I will check the voicemail in my office as often as I can but you will get a much quicker response from me by email. Feel free to email me about specific problems but try to ask productive questions. I will be able to be more helpful if you tell me what you’ve already tried and what is giving you problems. Also, if you can’t make my office hours but you’d like to meet with me then let me know so that we can find a time outside of office hours.

**WebWork**

All homework assignments and one quiz will be administered through WebWork. There are two ways to reach the WebWork login. You can navigate to

http://webwork.uoregon.edu/

from which point you can select our course, which is **Math111-14251** (the course number and the CRN). Alternatively, you can navigate directly to the course page at

http://webwork.uoregon.edu/webwork2/Math111-14251/.
Once you’ve reached the page for our course you will be prompted for a username and password. At the start of the course your username is your DuckID and your password is your student ID number. You can change the password if you’d like.

A few notes about WebWork:

- If you are a new student and you did not have a DuckID when you registered for the course then your username and password for WebWork will both be your student ID number.
- If you have not yet registered for the course then keep in mind that when you do register, you will not have access to WebWork until the following morning.
- There is an item on WebWork, which will be available throughout the term, called WebWork Practice. While it does not count for any course points, it is highly recommended that you take it to familiarize yourself with the WebWork interface.

Student Conduct

I encourage a laid back and often conversational atmosphere in my classroom where students should feel free to participate regularly. That being said, any student that is found to be a consistent distraction will be asked to leave for the sake of the other students. Additionally, I do not mind things like food, laptops, cell phones, or anything else like that as long as it does not distract the other students.

Academic dishonesty is a serious issue and will be treated as such; quizzes and tests will be monitored carefully for cheating. Violations of the student conduct code result in inclusion of the incident on your student conduct record as well as academic sanctions such as failing grades on any coursework related to the violation or simply a failing grade in the course.

Please note that while some professors consider it a violation if students collaborate on graded homework, I do not. In fact, I encourage students to work together outside of class as often as possible.

Students with Special Circumstances

If you are registered with Disability Services, if you are a fall-term athlete that will be missing class for games, or if you have any other special circumstances of which I should be aware, please come to me as soon in the term as possible so that proper arrangements can be made.