

Math 70

Office Hours:

Instructor: Tammy Nezol

UO Office: 198 C Anstett

Email: tnezol@uoregon.edu

Mondays, Wednesdays	10-10:45
Tuesdays	1:30-2:20
Thursdays	10:30-11:50

Required Text: *Beginning and Intermediate Algebra, 3rd edition, by Miller, O'Neill, Hyde.* Either the publisher's edition or the custom version printed for the University of Oregon may be used for this class.

Required Materials:

- Graph paper (about 20 sheets)
- Ruler
- Stapler (Brought to class every day!)
- Paper without frayed edges
- Scientific Calculator (graphing is okay but not necessary, we will not use calculators most of the term)
- Internet Access

Course Description:

Math 70 is a **non-credit** Elementary College Algebra class designed for college students to prepare them to succeed in Math 95 Intermediate Algebra class and ultimately to lay the foundations for them to succeed in all future math classes. In math 70 we will study chapters 1-6 from the book. Chapters 7-11 of the same book will be studied in Math 95.

While this class does not hold college credit, it does carry attendance credit for use with financial aid and other programs.

Assignments

We will have several types of assignments in this course.

Homework: There will be homework turned in weekly, usually on Wednesdays. It is important that you work on homework throughout the week and do not procrastinate until the last minute! Procrastinating just once can easily mean falling behind in the course.

There will be time to answer some homework questions in class, but the time is very minimal (about 5 minutes). Homework should be started well in advance of the due date so that questions can be brought to office hours and/or tutoring.

You must show work to receive credit. Also, your work must meet the expectations given in the "Expectations" section.

In general, I do not accept late homework. Understanding that illness and other events can happen, I drop two homework scores.

Quizzes: There will be weekly quizzes usually given on Wednesdays. Quizzes may be at the beginning or end of class depending on lecture needs and needs of students with test anxiety. Please carefully read the study skills section at the end of this syllabus to prep for quizzes. If you are receiving lower scores on quizzes than you would like, come to office hours for more assistance and studying advice.

I do not give any quiz makeups. Understanding that illness and other events can happen, I drop two quiz scores.

Most quizzes will NOT allow calculators.

Exams: There will be three exams during the course. Midterm 2 will cover material from Midterm 2. The final (given Monday of finals week) will cover any material from the term. It is your responsibility to make the midterms and finals. In general, I do not give early exams. Make sure you (or anyone else) do not make any travel arrangements that will conflict with taking the final at the scheduled time.

Exam scores cannot be dropped.

Exams will NOT allow calculators.

Group Work: Group Work will be done on a regular basis. You will need to be in class to get credit for completing group work. Group work will be factored into your homework grade and count as homework assignments. **Note, group work means that attendance may affect your final grade.**

Expectations

As a student, attending class, completing assignments, studying for quizzes/exams, and working toward conceptual and procedural knowledge is all part of your job. You should treat it as such.

- Homework must be neat, organized, clear, stapled, and free of frayed-edges. It should be clear that you worked on the assignment without throwing it together at the last minute.
- Attend all classes when possible. If you are ill, contact me right away to let me know and to see what you missed. If you know you will have to miss class in the future, keep in contact with me.
- Study for quizzes and exams. Do not procrastinate. Studying a little every night is far superior to studying all at once in a big bulk. See the study skills section at the end of this syllabus.
- Check your email and blackboard daily. This is my primary way of communicating with you so it is essential that you are checking regularly.

Grading

This is a pass/no pass course. You must earn a C- in the course to earn a pass . Grading is on a weighted scale so you cannot just add up your points and divide in hopes of determining your overall grade.

Weights will be roughly as follows:

15% Homework/Group Work/Attendance

15% Quizzes

40% Midterms

30% Final

I take improvement into account so the previous percentages may be altered in order to do so.

Math 070 Fall 2011 Tentative Class Schedule:

Note: We may be ahead or behind this schedule.

Week	Sections Covered
Week 1	1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6
Week 2	2.1, 2.2, 2.3 2.4, 2.5
Week 3	2.6, 2.7, 2.8, 3.1, 3.2
Week 4	3.3, 3.4, 3.5, Review
Week 5	Exam #1, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3
Week 6	4.4, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4
Week 7	5.5, 5.6, 5.7, Review
Week 8	Exam #2, 6.1 6.2, 6.3
Week 9	6.4, 6.5 Thanksgiving
Week 10	6.6, 6.7, 6.8, Review
Finals Week	Monday 6 p.m Location TBA

Course Goals:

By the end of this class students should be able to:

- Correctly and efficiently perform arithmetic with signed numbers
- Correctly and efficiently perform arithmetic with fractions and decimals
- Simplify and evaluate algebraic expressions
- Simplify and solve linear equations
- Understand when to solve and when it does not make sense to solve
- Graph linear equations in two variables
- Solve systems of linear equations by graphing, substitution, and addition methods
- Understand, set-up, and solve word problems, especially word problems dealing with lines
- Manipulate exponential expressions, and use scientific notation
- Factor quadratic and other polynomial expressions
- Solve quadratic and polynomial equations by factoring
- Understand terminology in relation to lines, polynomials, and quadratics

Study Skills

- Don't cram! In general, the human brain can only take in so much knowledge at a time (about 40 minutes). When you study too long in a row, your brain throws out old information to make room for the new information. Everything becomes a jumbled mess making quizzes/exams impossible. If you feel questions on exams don't look like what we learned, it is probably because you studied too much at one time!
- Take breaks (see above). This is actually the most important tip in studying I can give you. Also, get sleep. Your brain will continue to study while you sleep, especially if you go to bed right after studying.
- Work to understand the concepts. 'Why' is just as important as 'How'. When you understand 'Why' new material will not take you by surprise. Topics in math are not disconnected but rather form a cohesive whole.
- Work WITHOUT notes/tutors. It's okay to start with these resources, but at some point you need to study as though you are taking an exam. It's important to discover what you don't know and the only way to do this is to work without notes. Retry problems several times until you are comfortable not needing a reference. Take a break. Come back and try the problems again. This will help your brain move the material to long term memory.

- Study the old material at the same time as looking at the new.
- See me for more advice. Come to office hours. Visit the Teaching Learning Center or the Fenton Hall Reading Room.

Accessible Education

If you will need special accommodations, please meet with me as soon as possible. Please bring your letter from the Accessible Education Center. You may contact the AEC at uoaec@uoregon.edu