

MAT 152A
Basic Algebra (Part I)
Fall 2014

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Office Hours: Room A210, Mon., Thurs. 12:00 – 1:00 PM
Tues. 9:00 – 10:00 AM
Wed. 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Fri. 8:00 – 9:00 AM

And as always, by appointment.

Class Time and Location: Mon. & Wed. 1:00 -2:50 PM, A211

Textbook (optional): Beginning and Intermediate Algebra, 5th Edition, Elayn Martin-Gay

Required Software: It is required to have a software license to use the software MyMathLab in this class. You must have a valid e-mail address to use the on-line curriculum. Students have two choices. The first choice is to purchase the textbook from the bookstore. The textbook comes with the software license. Note: If you purchase a used textbook, it may not have a valid course access code. Be VERY careful when acquiring the text. The second choice is to purchase the license alone either from the bookstore or online at pearsonmylabandmastering.com. The license gives you access to the textbook online. This is a more economical choice, but is only recommended to students who have online access and feel comfortable reading a computer screen instead of a traditional book. If you have already purchased an access code for Math 152A for this textbook, you may also use it for this class at no extra cost.

To access our class page, go to pearsonmylabandmastering.com and register using your student access code and the course ID for this class: armbrust38997

For assistance with MyMathLab: You may get help by calling 1-800-677-6337 during the following hours: Mon – Fri 5:00 AM – 5:00 PM & Sunday 2:00 PM – 9:00 PM. Online assistance is available 24 hours every day at: 247pearsoned.custhelp.com

Course Description: This course is designed as an introduction to algebra. Topics covered include the four basic operations with positive and negative numbers and with polynomials, solving and graphing linear equations, an introduction to functions and sets, and properties of integral exponents.

Prerequisite: MAT 187B with a grade of “C” or better or equivalent or appropriate skills demonstrated through the math assessment process.

Calculators: Calculators are not allowed in MAT 152A.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Solve linear equations and inequalities.
2. Define and employ terminology and arithmetic relating to polynomials in one variable.
3. Determine the equation and graph a line given information about the line.
4. Manipulate expressions with integral exponents.
5. Apply course topics to real-world situations.

Course Grade: Your final letter grade will be based on the usual grading scale:

A 90-100%, B 80-89%, C 70-79%, D 60-69%, F 0-59%

The following items will make up the course grade:

Homework:	15%
Quizzes:	15%
Exam1 (October 13)	
Exam2 (November 3):	45%
Exam3 (November 24)	
Final Exam (December 10):	25%

You may check your grades at any point in the quarter by accessing the grade book on Course Compass.

Homework: Homework is to be completed online with MyMathLab. Each week has a homework assignment due at midnight on Wednesday of the following week. There will be NO extensions on the due dates of the homework assignments. If all homework assignments are completed with a score of 50% or more, your lowest regular exam score will be dropped.

Quizzes: Each week you will be required to take a quiz on MyMathLab. The quiz will be made up of problems that are very similar to the problems from your homework assignments. Quizzes must be completed by midnight Wednesday. The quizzes may be taken as often as you would like before this time. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped. There will be NO extensions on the due dates of the online quizzes.

Exams: Students are to bring a pencil and blank scratch paper to each exam. If you cannot make it to an exam (final not included), you may take it up to 2 school days prior to the scheduled date with proper arrangements. Otherwise, the exam may be made up after the scheduled date with a penalty of 10% per day. The final exam may not be taken after the scheduled exam time.

Registration Information: You may drop the class with no penalty or mark on your record on or before October 3. After October 3, you may drop the class and receive a grade of W until November 7. After November 7, if still enrolled, you will receive a grade of A, B, C, D, F or I.

How to Succeed in a Math Class: I am often asked how to successfully pass a math class, and here is my advice:

- I) Come to every class session. Be prepared, and plan on participating.
- II) Do your homework. Remember that what I assign is what I consider a bare minimum. If you need more practice, do it. Don't make me be a homework enforcer.
- III) Read the book. You paid good money for it, so you might as well use it.
- IV) Make use of available tutors and my office hours. You will find tutors who know the subject matter in this course at the Math Success Center (MSC).
- V) Do math every day. Math is just like everything else: if you don't practice, you become rusty.

Technology in the Classroom: All cell phones, headphones, MP3 players, iPods, etc, must be turned off and put away prior to the start of each class. No electronic devices may be used during quizzes and exams.

Learning Disabled Students: Students with disabilities who may need accommodations for this class are encouraged to notify me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) early in the quarter so that reasonable accommodations may be implemented as soon as possible. Students may contact the DRC by visiting the Center (located in room A205) or by phoning 541-4660, ext. 249 (voice) or 542-1870 (TTY for deaf students). All information will remain confidential.

Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty of any form will not be tolerated. Students caught cheating on exams will receive a score of zero on the assignment and all dropping of lowest exam or quiz scores will be forfeit. Students may work together on homework assignments (and, in fact, are encouraged to) as long as all students understand the material covered.

Course Schedule:

The following is a tentative schedule. If things change (and I have money that says they will), I will let you know.

September

22	1.2, 1.3	Introductions, Real Numbers, Fractions
24	1.4, 1.5	Algebraic Expressions and Addition of Real Numbers
29	1.6, 1.7	Subtraction, Multiplication, and Division of Real Numbers

October

1	1.8, 2.1	Properties of the Real Numbers and Their Uses
6	2.2, 2.3	Properties of Equality and Solving Linear Equations
8	2.4, Review	Problem Solving
13	Exam I	
15	2.5, 2.6	Applications of Algebra
20	2.7, 2.8	More Applications of Equations, Solving Linear Inequalities
22	3.1, 3.2	Rectangular Coordinate System and Graphing Lines
27	3.3, 3.4	Intercepts and Slopes of Lines
29	3.5, Review	Equations of Lines

November

3	Exam II	
5	3.6, 9.4	Functions, Linear Inequalities of Two Variables
10	NO SCHOOL	VETERAN'S DAY
12	5.1, 5.2	Exponents and Polynomials
17	5.3, 5.4	Multiplying Polynomials
19	5.5, Review	Negative Exponents and Scientific Notation
24	Exam III	
26	5.6, 9.1	Dividing Polynomials, Compound Inequalities

December

1	9.2, 12.1	Absolute Value Equations and Function Operations
3	Review	
10	Final Exam	Note: The final is from 12:00 - 1:50 PM.