

MAT 152A – BEGINNING ALGEBRA (Part I)

Fall 2015

Course ID	Room	Unit	Days	Start Time	End Time
MAT 152A-5	A251	4	T,TR	1:00 PM	2:50 AM

INSTRUCTOR: Helen Shen

PHONE: 530-541-4660, Extension 364

E-MAIL: shen@ltcc.edu

OFFICE HOURS: Room A204
Mon. & Wed. 10:40 – 11:00 AM & 12:40 – 2:00 PM
Tue. & Thurs. 12:30 – 1:00 PM
Fri. 10:40 – 11:00 AM & 12:40 – 1:00 PM

TEXTBOOK (OPTIONAL): *Beginning and Intermediate Algebra*, by Martin-Gay, 5th Edition

REQUIRED SOFTWARE LICENSE: It is required to have a software license to use the software MyMathLab in this class. Students have two choices. The first choice is to purchase the textbook from the bookstore. The textbook comes with the software license for an additional cost of approximately \$5. The second choice is to purchase the license alone either from the bookstore or online at coursecompass.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 purchase a used textbook, you will also need to purchase the software license. This software license will also be good for Math 152B, Math 152BB, Math 154A & Math 154AA at no extra cost. The software license is valid as long as the student uses the same textbook; the student may need to call the tech support to obtain another access code if the student takes the same class again later.

Course website: www.mymathlab.com

Our Course Id is **shen16944**

For assistance call 1-800-677-6337, Mon – Fri 3:00 PM – 11:00 PM

Online assistance is available 24 hours every day at:

<http://247pearsoned.custhelp.com>

COUSE DESCRIPTION: This course will study the basic concepts of algebra. Topics include the real numbers, their properties, solving linear equations and inequalities, the four basic operations with polynomials, graphing linear functions and inequalities in two variables, properties of exponents and introduction to functions.

PREREQUISITE: A grade of C or better in Math 187B or equivalent; or a satisfactory score on Mathematics Assessment Test.

CALCULATORS: Calculators are not allowed in this class on any of the tests.

TUTORING: Tutoring is available in the Math Success Center (MSC) in Room A201. Students will earn 0.5 point toward the total grade for every 10 hours in MSC or DRC. However, if any student misses three or more classes, no lab credit will be granted.

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.

GRADING POLICY:

Method of Student Evaluation	
Homework (Online, 27 sections)	162 pt
Quizzes (Quiz#1~#5, in class; Quiz#6, online)	102 pt
Exams (Three)	300 pt
Final (Covers entire course content)	200 pt

And, **your final needs to be above 100 points to pass the class.**

Your letter grade will be based on your percentage.

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	less than 60%

CHECKING YOUR GRADE ONLINE: You can check your grade at any time in MyMathLab where you will be doing your homework. I will drop a student from the class if the student misses six classes or more and is unable to keep up with the learning.

HOMEWORK: Homework will be done online using MyMathLab. Due dates are listed for you when you go on line to do the assignments. Feel free to consult a fellow classmate, a tutor, your instructor, or anyone else for assistance on the homework. In addition, the computer will give you help with any problem, show you an example of a similar problem, and in some cases show you a video of someone teaching how to do that type of problem. You can work on homework after the due date but there are penalties for being late (see the make-up policy below). **If you don't have the internet connection at home, you can print them out in school at Math Lab, TLC, or D-wing Lab, work the problem on the papers, and enter the answers in school.**

EXAM POLICY: Grading will be based on progress towards the final answer, and the demonstration of understanding of the concept that is being tested. The more you show me with steps and detail, the better your chances for partial credit. You provide me the communication and detail in your answers; and I will give you the best grade I can based on that communication and answer. You can use one page of notes, front and back, for quizzes, exams and the final. **0 points will be given if the cell phone is used during the exam time.**

MAKE-UP POLICY:

For **Quizzes, Exams and the Final**, make-up is possible if the instructor is **contacted in advance and the absence is excuse**; there is a 10% penalty if the absence is not excused. The make-up test needs to be taken before the next class. **Homework** will be accepted late up to one week after it is assigned for half credit; the online homework will be closed after the due date, and I will **reopen it next day morning** for another week for the late homework. You have 3 tries for the online quiz#6, the highest score will be used, and there is no make-up for the online quiz. **If you take the make-up test at TLC, you need to make an appointment at TLC 24 hours ahead by going to TLC, call (530)541-4660 x 740, or e-mail TLCProctors@ltcc.edu.**

COMMUNICATION POLICY:

You can communicate with me either by coming to class or office hours, sending an e-mail, or calling on the phone. I will respond to your e-mails in a timely manner, and I will do my best to return your calls (you need to make sure to leave your number clearly). If you miss the class, it is your responsibility to pick up the class handouts or obtain the information either from your classmates or from me during the office hours.

- I have students work together to help each other. Please feel free to ask me directly if you like to work with me one-on-one.
- **Please come see me if you do not understand my policies.**
- Since English is my secondary language, please **be sure to ask** me if you have any difficulty to understand math due to my accent. I will be happy to clarify.

LEARNING DISABILITIES:

If you have a learning disability, be sure to discuss your special needs with me during the first week of class. Learning disabilities will be accommodated.

HOW TO SUCCEED IN A MATH CLASS:

- 1) Read your textbook before class.
- 2) Choose to attend all class periods and be on time.
- 3) Exchange names and phone number with classmates.
- 4) Learn from your mistakes and **be patient with yourself.**
- 5) Don't be afraid of asking questions.
- 6) Know how to get help if you need it.
- 7) Organize your class materials.
- 8) Do your homework.
- 9) Check your work.
- 10) Hand in assignments on time.

No Cell Phone during the Class and Test Time: Unless asked, no cell phones are allowed during the class time and the test time. You will receive 0 point if you use the cell phone during the test time. And, I will *ignore* you for the rest of the quarter if you use the cell phone during the class time.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY (CHEATING): Academic dishonesty of any form will not be tolerated. Students caught cheating on exams or quizzes will receive a score of zero on the assignment for the first offense and a course grade of F for the second offense.

Cheating will be defined as but not limited to: (1) using any method to copy another's work on an exam, quiz, or final (2) directly copying another student's homework assignment (3) using any method other than your own honest efforts to complete exams, quizzes, the final, or homework assignments.

The following activities are NOT cheating: (1) collaborating with other students to complete homework assignments (2) working with math tutors or academic coaches to complete homework assignments (3) working with other students to study for exams, quizzes or the final.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE: If you need help paying for your books or other expenses, call our financial aid officer, America Ramirez, at 541-4660 x236, email her at Ramirez@ltcc.edu, or drop by A100.

WHERE TO FIND A COMPUTER ON CAMPUS: Computers are available for your use in the following locations on campus:

- Tutoring & Learning Center (TLC)* open Mon – Thurs 10 – 6, Fri 10 – 2.
- Math Success Center (MSC) * open Mon – Thurs 9 – 6, Fri 10 – 2
- Open Labs in the D-wing which have available times posted by the door of each lab.

* Both the TLC and the MSC are in room A201.

Tentative Lecture Schedule for Math 152A

Be sure to use class time, office hours, and the MSC to get all of your questions answered.

Date	Section	Topic	Homework
T 9/22	1.2 1.3 1.4	Introductions, Discussion of Syllabus	
		Symbols and Sets of Numbers (Will be covered throughout the course)	
		Fractions	
		An introduction to variable expressions & equations	
		MyMathLab	
TR 9/24	1.5 1.6 1.7 2.1	Adding Real Numbers	
		Subtracting Real Numbers	
		Multiplying and Dividing Real Numbers	Homework on sections 1.3-1.7 & 2.1 is due
		Simplifying Algebraic Expressions	Monday, 9/28, at 11:30pm
T 9/29	2.2 2.3	Quiz #1 (Sections 1.3 – 1.7) (20min)	
		The Addition and Multiplication Properties of Equality	Homework on sections 2.2-2.3 is due
		Solving Linear Equations	Wednesday, 9/30, at 11:30pm
TR 10/1	2.4 2.5	Quiz #2 (Sections 2.1 – 2.3) (20min)	
		An Introduction to Problem Solving	Homework on sections 2.4-2.5 is due
		Problem Solving (Not doing Formulas)	Monday, 10/5, at 11:30pm
T 10/6	2.8	Solving Linear Inequalities Review for Exam 1	Homework on section 2.8 is due Wednesday, 10/7, at 11:30pm

TR 10/8		Exam #1 (Section 1.2 – 1.7, 2.1 – 2.5, & 2.8) (60 min)	
	3.1	The Coordinate System	
T 10/13	3.2	Graphing Linear Equations	
	3.3	Intercepts	
TR 10/15	3.4	Slope and Rate of Change (extra credit for fractions)	Homework on sections 3.1-3.4 is due Monday, 10/19, at 11:30pm
T 10/20		Quiz #3 (Sections 3.1 – 3.3) (30min)	
	3.5	Equations of Lines	
TR 10/22	9.4	Graphing Linear Inequalities in two variables (not systems)	Homework on sections 3.5, & 9.4 is due Monday, 10/26, at 11:30pm
	5.1	Exponents (5.2 Reading Assignment)	
T 10/27		Review for Exam #2	
TR 10/29		Exam #2 (Sections 3.1 – 3.5, & 9.4) (70min)	
	5.2	Polynomials: Definition, +, -	
T 11/3	5.3	Multiplying Polynomials	Homework on sections 5.1-5.4 is due Monday, 11/9, at 11:30pm
	5.4	Special Products	
TR 11/5	5.5	Negative Exponents & Scientific Notation	
T 11/10		Quiz #4 (Sections 5.1 – 5.3) (30min)	
	5.6	Division of Polynomials	
TR 11/12	5.6	Finish 5.6	Homework on sections 5.5 -5.6 is due Monday, 11/16, at 11:30pm
	9.2	Absolute Value Equations	
T 11/17		Review for Exam #3	
TR 11/19		Exam #3 (Chapter 5) (60min)	
	3.6	Functions	Homework on sections 9.2 & 3.6 is due Monday, 11/30, at 11:30pm
T 11/24	2.6	Percent and Mixture Problem Solving	
TR 11/26		Thanksgiving Holiday	
T 12/1		Quiz #5 (Sections 9.2 & 3.6) (20min)	
	2.7	Further Problem Solving	Homework on sections 2.6-2.7 is due Sunday, 12/6, at 11:30pm
		Quiz #6 (Online, Section 2.6-2.7) is due Sunday, 12/6, at 11:30pm.	
TR 12/3		Review for Final Exam	
TR 12/10		Cumulative Final Exam	