MAT 154A – Section 2

Intermediate Algebra

Fall, 2015

TIME AND LOCATION: Tuesday and Thursday 6:00 –7:50 PM in E106

INSTRUCTOR: Wynn Walker

E-MAIL: walker@ltcc.edu

OFFICE HOURS: outside of the Math Success Center

     Monday and Wednesday 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

     Tuesday and Thursday 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

     OR BY APPOINTMENT

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

REQUIRED SOFTWARE LICENSE: 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 or Math 152B 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:

MAT154A course ID: **walkerXXXXX**

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: MAT 154A is a continuation of MAT 152B and covers functions and inverses, exponential and logarithmic functions, sequences and series, and conic sections, quadratic equations, and systems of quadratic equations.

PREREQUISITE: A grade of C or better in MAT 152B, or appropriate skills demonstrated through the Math assessment process.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
1. Apply the course topics to real-world situations.
2. Sketch and interpret the graphs of functions and relations introduced in intermediate algebra.
3. Simplify mathematical expressions into forms more amenable to analysis.
4. Provide solutions to equations using methods from intermediate algebra.

GRADING POLICY: 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%
In Class Quizzes	20%
Exam1	15%
Exam2	15%

Exam3   15%

Final Exam (Cumulative)   20%

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

IN CLASS QUIZZES: There will be given short quizzes every day starting at 2 minutes after the class begins and ending at 5 minutes after the class begins. Quizzes cannot be made up.

COMPUTER QUIZZES: There are also quizzes that you will take in MyMathLab. The quizzes are designed to help you prepare for exams, and will be made up of problems that are very similar to the problems from your homework assignments. The quizzes may be taken as often as you would like before the due date/time.

ATTENDANCE AND CLASS PARTICIPATION POLICY: Students must attend all classes and arrive on time. <u>At the beginning of each class a very short quiz will be given which will end at exactly five minutes after the class begins.</u> I may drop a student if they miss the first class meeting if there are students who are on a waiting list to enroll in this class. Also, I may drop a student from the class whenever their total absences exceed two more than the number of times that a class meets per week. Regarding class participation, from time to time groups of people will be called up to the board to share their answers to problems worked on during class. I feel that this active engagement process is essential in order to successfully learn math.

HOMEWORK: Homework is to be completed online with MyMathLab. Each section covered will have a homework assignment. The homework assignments will be due at 11:59 PM on Monday nights. However, it is NOT RECOMMENDED that you wait until that time to work on the homework. The homework assignments are your chance to practice the material covered in class. It is YOUR responsibility to make sure you are getting the information from each section. At the beginning of class, I will go over homework questions from the previous day's material. Other questions will be addressed outside of class or in office hours. Late homework will be accepted one class period beyond the due

date, with a 50% penalty, no exceptions. Late homework will not be accepted after more than one class after the due date.

EXAM POLICY: Students are to bring a pencil and blank scratch paper to each exam. 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 can use one 3x5 notecard front and back, for exams and the final.

MAKE-UP POLICY: There are no make-ups for quizzes. <u>No exams may be taken after their scheduled time. If a student will be unable to take an exam at the scheduled time, he or she must take the exam prior to the scheduled time.</u> Students must contact the instructor in advance of the examination in order to arrange a time to take any exam early. THE FINAL MUST BE TAKEN AT THE SCHEDULED TIME.

CALCULATORS: A scientific calculator is required for this course. Graphing calculators will not be allowed on quizzes and exams.

CELL PHONES: Cell phones and all other electronic devices must be turned off while class is in session. For any student whose cell phone goes off during a quiz or exam a 5% penalty will be applied to their quiz or exam score.

A WORD ON HONESTY: Cheating or copying will not be tolerated. People who cheat dilute the honest effort of the rest of us. If you cheat on a quiz, exam, or project you will receive a 0 for that assignment. Also, I may refer any student who is caught cheating for further disciplinary action. Please don't cheat in this class. If you are having difficulty with the course, please contact me.

TUTORING: Free tutoring is available in the Math Success Center (MSC). The MSC is located in the Tutoring and Learning Center (TLC) in A201.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: If there is anyone in this class who has need for test-taking or note-taking arrangements through the Disabilities Resource Center, please feel free to come and discuss this with me. Students with disabilities who may need accommodations for this class are encouraged to notify the instructor 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.

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. MyMathLab has dozens of extra problems for each section as well as sample chapter exams.

III) Read the book.

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.

Tentative Lecture Schedule and Homework Assignment Due Dates for MAT 154A

The following is a tentative schedule. If things change (it is very likely), I will let you know. The Sections refer to the sections in the paper copy and online text book.

WEEK 1:
9/23   Introductions,
            4.4: Systems of Linear Equations in 3 Variables

9/25   3.6: Functions,

8.2: Graphs of Functions

Homework 4.4, 3.6, 8.2 due Monday Sept. 29 11:59 PM

WEEK 2:
9/30   8.3: Transformations of Functions

10/2   11.3: Using Quadratic Methods to Solve Equations

Homework 8.3, 11.3, Online Quiz 1 due Monday Oct. 6 11:59 PM

WEEK 3:
10/7   11.4: Quadratic and Rational Inequalities

10/9   11.5, 11.6: Graphs of Quadratic Functions

Homework 11.4, 11.5, 11.6, Online Quiz 2 due Monday Oct. 13 11:59 PM

WEEK 4:
10/14   **Exam I**

10/16   12.1: Function Algebra

Homework 12.1 due Monday Oct. 20 11:59 PM

WEEK 5:
10/21   12.2: Inverse Functions

10/23   12.3, 12.4: Exponential Functions

Homework 12.2, 12.3, 12.4 due Monday Oct. 27 11:59 PM

WEEK 6:
10/28   12.5: Logarithmic Functions

10/30   12.6: Properties of logarithms
         12.7: Bases of logarithms

Homework 12.5, 12.6, 12.7, Online Quiz 3 due Monday Nov. 3 11:59 PM

WEEK 7:
11/4   **Exam II**

11/6   12.8: Exponential and Logarithmic Equations

Homework 12.8 due Monday Nov. 10 11:59 PM

WEEK 8:
11/11   13.1: Parabolas and Circles

11/13   13.2: Ellipses and Hyperbolas

Homework 13.1, 13.2 due Monday Nov. 17 11:59 PM

WEEK 9:
11/18   13.3: Systems of nonlinear equations
         13.4: Systems of nonlinear inequalities

11/20   14.1: Introduction to sequences
         14.2: Arithmetic and Geometric Sequences

Homework 13.3, 13.4, 14.1, 14.2 and Online Quiz 4 due Monday Nov. 24 11:59 PM

WEEK 10:
11/25   Exam III

11/27   NO CLASS   Thanksgiving

WEEK 11:
12/2   14.3: Series

12/4   14.4: Arithmetic and Geometric Series

Homework 14.3, 14.4 and Online Quiz 5 due Wednesday Dec. 10 11:59 PM

WEEK 12:
12/11   Final Exam   1:00 - 2:50 PM.