

Math 152A, Basic Algebra (Part I)

SYLLABUS

Class:

Math 152A, Basic Algebra – Part I (1/6 – 3/24)

Instructor: Laurel Brock, email: brockfamily3@gmail.com; phone: 530-307-9968

Class website: www.BrocksMathClass.com

Class meets: Tuesdays and Thursdays

1:00 pm – 2:50 pm

IMPORTANT: MIDTERM EXAM: Tuesday, 2/10 @ 1:00pm – 2:50pm

FINAL EXAM: Thursday, 3/26 @ 1:00pm – 2:50pm (Rm A213)

Room: LTCC, A213

Required Materials: MyMathLab subscription

- Buy online at MyMathLab.com or in the LTCC library. (*see class website for course ID*)
- \$95 to purchase online – they also offer a free-trial
 - Trial can be found at the bottom of the page when asked to purchase or give access code
- A textbook is NOT necessary there is an e-text online with your subscription.

Prerequisites: You must have completed 187B with a “C” or better, or have passed the placement exam prior to being placed in this class.

Course Description: This course is an introduction to algebra. I will be presenting the Real Numbers and their properties and operations, absolute value equations, simplifying algebraic expressions, linear equations and inequalities, applications with formulas, the rectangular coordinate system, graphing linear equations and inequalities, polynomials and their operations, integral exponents, and an introduction to functions. This course will connect math with the “real” world through basic word problems.

152A - Student Learning Outcomes

The successful student in Math 152A will be able to:

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.

Items that will assist you for class:

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The grade of 'F' is usually reserved for students who drop out without informing A & R. At any time during the quarter, you can calculate what your percentage is.

Be aware that with only four letters at the instructor's disposal, it's quite common for students to end up midway between two letter grades at the end of the class. Your behaviour and your participation in class are likely to play a part in your final course grade. Be here. Be courteous and respectful of those around you. Students who behave in positive ways will get the higher grade.

QUIZZES/TESTS are scheduled on the course calendar that can be found on www.BrocksMathClass.com. There will be no make-ups for quizzes or tests. Additional quizzes may be offered for extra credit. They will be announced in the lecture prior to the day given in class. **DO NOT BE LATE for any in-class exams, or you will NOT be given the exam!**

- **Missing a Test:** If you know you are going to be absent for a test, make sure you give me at least 4 days before the test to make alternative accommodations for you. You are responsible for contacting the Testing and Learning Center (TLC) to make an appointment. There will be NO MAKE-UP exams if you miss a test and have not informed me before the test.
- If you take your tests in the TLC or DRC due to the need for an individualized testing environment as prescribed by the DRC at LTCC. You will need to make arrangements at least 72 hours prior to the day of the exam.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance is required. I will take attendance randomly throughout the term and your attendance grade will reflect whether you are there on that day. If you are absent, please do not call to inform me. You are responsible for any information taught that day and you can find the lecture calendar online at brocksmathclass.com. Make a friend in class who can tell you what you missed, and share notes with you.

HOMEWORK: Homework will be offered online at MyMathLab.com. You may turn in your homework online. The course code for the class can be found on www.BrocksMathClass.com. Homework will be accepted late with a 25% penalty.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY (CHEATING):

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) allowing someone else to complete your work (4) 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.

Disciplinary actions for cheating in this class: Cheating will result in a grade of zero on the item on which the cheating occurred. I hold the right to require proctored exams if I feel that you are being dishonest on your at-home quizzes or tests.

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Habits that contribute to ACADEMIC SUCCESS:

- 1) Attend every lecture if you possibly can. Sit where you know you won't be distracted, and where you can see and hear what's going on in class.
- 2) Take notes, working along in class and keeping a glossary of unfamiliar terms.
- 3) Do all assigned reading **before class**, so that you can bring up points in class that you found confusing. Work the example problems as part of your reading.
- 4) Ask questions in class. Stay focused on math. Please limit your conversation in class to the topics being covered, and save your socializing for outside of class. Participation is part of your homework grade and expected each week. Participation credit can be received by writing down a question pertaining to the lecture or past lecture that can be answered before the class lecture is given.

LAUREL'S COMMITMENT

to the class

- I am very excited about being here to teach you. I care as much as you do about your comfort, well-being and accomplishments in our class. All that I do is designed to help you achieve success in math.
- I will maintain, at all times, a respectful and learning-friendly environment for my students. Your input is encouraged and appreciated, when the topic is math. In particular, consistent tardiness, chit-chatting, cell phones and headphones are all discouraged.
- I will never embarrass or humiliate you. Period. You'll receive a courteous and respectful answer to any math question you wish to ask me. If you feel awkward about bringing something up that was covered previously, ask anyway. If we need to spend more time than we can take at the moment, we'll agree to meet later.
- I will be on time, prepared and organized when I get to class. The earlier part of my day will be checked at the door. I will give 100% of my attention to the class.
- I will not short-change you by setting low standards. Earning a 'C' or better in this class means you leave here with the necessary level of competency for success in your next math class. Students who don't need additional math classes will leave with the benefits of an improved understanding and mastery of algebra skills and topics, and a stronger confidence in mathematics than they'd known previously.

SCHEDULE OF CLASS TOPICS AND HOMEWORK

Math 152A (Part I), Instructor: Laurel Brock, Fall 2014

The current class calendar is posted online at www.BrocksMathClass.com

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