MAT 117: College Algebra
Spring 2012 Course Syllabus

Course Information

Course Description
Welcome to MAT 117! The purpose of this course is to develop skills in linear and quadratic functions, general polynomial functions, rational functions, and exponential and logarithmic functions. You will also study systems of linear equations. We will emphasize problem-solving techniques, specifically by means of discussing concepts in each of these topics.

Course Objectives
• Students will be able to apply algebraic reasoning to solve a range of problems.
• Students will develop skills required for success in future studies in calculus.

Prerequisites
• MAT 106 or MAT 113 with a C or better or completion of the ALEKS Math Placement Test with a score of 40% or higher or completed MAT 194: EFM with skills mastered for MAT 117.

Course Materials & Structure

Textbook
You are not required to purchase a textbook for this course. Reading materials will be provided online in each lesson as pdf chapters. Practice problems with solutions are also provided through the left menu under course home.

Calculator
A graphing calculator (such as the TI-83/84) is required. You are expected to bring your calculator to class daily. Cellular phone calculators are not permitted in class or during an exam. Also, the sharing of calculators is not permitted during exams.

Diagnostic Assessment
A diagnostic assessment is administered online before you begin each section to determine your learning path and the content materials you will receive. You are expected to watch the video for each section before completing the diagnostic assessment. The diagnostic assessment results do not get calculated into your final course grade.
Knewton Study Center

The information you receive in the Knewton Study Center could differ from your classmates depending on your results of the diagnostic quizzes and understanding of the course material. You are expected to work out solutions to problems and take notes while interacting with the online content just as if you were in a traditional lecture. You can use these notes as you prepare for your exams or in class for the problem solving sessions.

Problem Solving Sessions

Each student is expected to come to class on a weekly basis and participate. Every week, you will receive a problem set and be assigned a group based on the most recent content you and each of your group members have completed in the course. If you miss class you will not receive your problem sets or credit for that class. There are no make-up problem sets for missed class sessions. Please see your instructor if you have a documented reason for missing class.

Badges

You will earn 4 badges online throughout the semester. 20% of your course grade consists of these badges. The first three count as 6% each and the last badge counts as 2% to get the total of 20%.

Exams

You will take three unit exams during the semester according to the target dates listed below. Based on the recommended pace of the course you should not have any trouble meeting these deadlines. Each exam will involve a mix of mechanical skills and conceptual reasoning. No exam scores will be dropped. Each exam is worth 15% of your grade. Another 15% is for the final exam. (So the exams plus the final counts for 60% of your course grade.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam</th>
<th>Target Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit 1 Exam</td>
<td>February 3rd at midnight</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit 2 Exam</td>
<td>March 7th at midnight</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit 3 Exam</td>
<td>April 18th at midnight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>May 2nd at 4:00 PM</td>
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Course Design

Click HERE to see a graphic of the course flow for 117.

Course Expectations & Student Resources

Course Expectations

- You are expected to complete a minimum of 2 sections per week (4 sections in a 7.5 week format) as outlined on the course schedule.
- Over the course of the semester, you are expected to remain “On Track” as designated by your instructor. Students who are “Off Track” by the day/time designated by your instructor may receive a loss of points for your participation grade.
- Our weekly class meeting for problem solving is not the only time you should be working on the course content. Since this is a hybrid course, a majority of your work will be done online outside of the classroom. You are expected to spend at least 6 hours per week outside of our scheduled class meeting to access the course content in the computer lab or your personal computer.
Student Resources / Computer Lab

- Your primary resource for tutoring is the computer lab. During non-class and non-testing times, tutors will be available to answer questions for you regarding the course content. You can also visit the Student Success Center. Specific hours for when a MAT 117 tutor is available at the Student Success Center can be found on their webpage at: http://studentsuccess.asu.edu.
- If you own a laptop computer, you are encouraged to bring it with you to the computer lab when you are working on course content or taking an exam.
- The Technology Studio can check your laptop or personal computer free of charge to make sure you are ready to access all the course content from your computer. If you choose to use your laptop for exams, the Technology Studio will also assist you in installing the secure browser required for testing.
- You must wear headphones while in the computer lab.

Evaluation Activities

This course requires students to complete four important evaluation activities:
- Success in ASU Math Study Consent Form
- ACES Pre-test
- ACES Post-test
- Engagement Survey

Your course website includes detailed information about the evaluation activities, how long it takes to complete each one, and when each one should be completed. It will take about 45 minutes total over the semester to complete all four evaluation activities. Don’t forget you will need to include your name and ASURITE ID on each evaluation activity in order to get credit for completing the task. NOTE: If you took MAT 194, MAT 142 or MAT 117 in Fall 2011, your course included the same evaluation activities. You will need to complete the evaluation activities again in this course.

How to Succeed in this Course

- Staying “on track” is a critical component of student success in this course. Stay ahead of schedule and make sure you are aware of all the resources available to you that are listed in the syllabus and on the course site so you don’t fall behind.
- Check your ASU e-mail regularly.
- Log in to the course site every day.

Grading Policy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Point Distribution</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Unit Exams + Final Exam</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem Sets</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Unit Badges</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation, Attendance, etc.</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>97% or above</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90% - 96.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>89.5% - 89.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87% - 89.49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80% - 86.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>79.5% - 79.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77% - 79.49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70% - 76.99%</td>
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Key Semester Dates

Please refer to the ASU Academic Calendar for specific dates for your session.

Additional Information

• The highest standards of academic integrity are expected of all students at all times. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, cheating, fabrication, tampering, plagiarism, or facilitating such activities. We will act very harshly against any acts of academic dishonesty.
• Students with disabilities should arrange to meet with me as soon as possible to arrange for reasonable accommodations for their learning needs. Students registered with DRC must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to any exam close date.
• Alternative arrangements for any religious observances, ASU sanctioned activity, or ASU student athlete obligations must be arranged with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the event. As a reminder, there are no extensions or makeups for exams after the exam close date.
• No individual extra credit assignments will be offered.

Academic Integrity

ASU expects and requires all its students to act with honesty and integrity, and respect the rights of others in carrying out all academic assignments. For more information on academic integrity, including the policy and appeal procedures, please visit http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity and the Student Conduct Statement below.

Conduct

Students are required to adhere to the behavior standards listed in the
• Arizona Board of Regents Policy Manual Chapter V – Campus and Student Affairs: Code of Conduct
• ACD 125: Computer, Internet, and Electronic Communications
• ASU Student Academic Integrity Policy.

Students are entitled to receive instruction free from interference by other members of the class. If a student is disruptive, an instructor may ask the student to stop the disruptive behavior and warn the student that such disruptive behavior can result in withdrawal from the course. An instructor may withdraw a student from a course when the student’s behavior disrupts the educational process under USI 201-10.

Appropriate classroom behavior is defined by the instructor. This includes the number and length of individual messages online. Course discussion
messages should remain focused on the assigned discussion topics. Students must maintain a cordial atmosphere and use tact in expressing differences of opinion. Inappropriate discussion board messages may be deleted if an instructor feels it is necessary. Students will be notified privately that their posting was inappropriate.

Student access to the course Send Email feature may be limited or removed if an instructor feels that students are sending inappropriate electronic messages to other students in the course.

**Note:** This syllabus is tentative and should not be considered definitive. The instructor reserves the right to modify it (including the dates of the tests) to meet the needs of the class. It is the student’s responsibility to attend class regularly and to make note of any changes.