

MATH 0920 Section R1
Beginning Algebra
Fall 2015

Instructor: Dr. Nickodemus
Office: PS 340
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Lecture: MTWR 10:00–10:50

Office Hours: TR 9:00–9:50
 WF 11:00–11:50
 To Be Determined

Textbook: None

Course Description: The study of signed numbers, algebraic expressions and algebraic equations. Includes study of solution methods for linear equations, graphing linear equations, systems of equations and factoring quadratics.

Prerequisites: ACT composite math score of 19-20; or a COMPASS exam score in the Algebra domain of 0-39, within the past year.

Mastery: This is a mastery based course. This means that you must master the material in a section before you are allowed to move onto material in the next section. The requirements to pass an item are as follows.

Homework	80 %
Quizzes	75 %
Exams	70 %

Points: Your grade in this class is determined entirely by your performance in 3 categories. I will assign points in these categories on a weekly basis. The categories, as well as their weekly point values, are given below.

Attendance	2 points
Homework	4 points
Module Exams	4 points

Attendance: You are expected to attend class everyday. You will lose 1 point for every class meeting that you miss, up to 2. You are allowed 8 absences throughout the course of the semester. These absences are intended to be used for sick days and emergencies. In rare and extreme cases I will allow more than 8 absences.

Homework: You are expected to do homework for 1 hour every night, Monday through Thursday, in this class. If you miss doing your homework for a single evening, I will subtract 4 points for the week. If there is an evening where you will not be able to do your homework, please let me know.

Module Exams: You are expected to pass a module exam every week. If you fail to pass a module exam in a given week, you will lose 4 points for the week. You must pass all 12 module exams by the end of the semester. If you fail to pass all 12 module exams by the end of the semester, you will receive an F for your final grade.

Deadlines: The suggested pacing for the class is listed below. The first line lists the deadline for Week 1 as August 30th. This is the first Sunday after Week 1. The material due by August 30th is Quiz 1.1.

Week 1, August 30	Quiz 1.1
Week 2, September 6	Quiz 1.2, 1.3, <i>Module 1 Test</i>
Week 3, September 13	Quiz 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, <i>Module 2 Test</i>
Week 4, September 20	Quiz 1.8, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, <i>Module 3 Test</i>
Week 5, September 27	Quiz 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, <i>Module 4 Test</i>
Week 6, October 4	Quiz 3.4, 4.1, <i>Module 5 Test</i>
Week 7, October 11	Quiz 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, <i>Module 6 Test</i>
Week 8, October 18	Quiz 4.5, 4.6, <i>Module 7 Test</i>
Week 9, October 25	Quiz 4.7, 5.1, <i>Module 8 Test</i>
Week 10, November 1	Quiz 5.2, 5.3, <i>Module 9 Test</i>
Week 11, November 8	Quiz 5.4, 5.5, <i>Module 10 Test</i>
Week 12, November 15	Quiz 8.2, 8.3, <i>Module 11 Test</i>
Week 13, November 22	Quiz 2.4, 2.8, <i>Module 12 Test</i>
Week 14, November 29	Thanksgiving Week, <u>no modules due</u>
Week 15, December 6	<u>no modules due</u>
Week 16, December 13	<u>no modules due</u>

Email: The student's assigned Casper College email account is the *only* official method of communication in this class. All official communications with me will occur solely through the student's assigned Casper College email account. Email is also the only official method of communication at Casper College. Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as the primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly. They may contain information such as library fines notification, tuition bills, official correspondence from an instructor, etc.

Getting Help: If you feel that you are getting behind in the class, please let me know. Most issues can be cleared up very quickly if they are addressed early. If you cannot make any of my regular office hours listed above, we can schedule an individual appointment.

College Sponsored Activity: If you will be unable to earn your weekly points for a week because of a college sponsored activity, and you would like that week excused, you need to take the following actions.

1. Have your coach send me a typed letter on Casper College letter head with a list of all the dates that you will be gone for the entire semester by September 11.
2. Prior to your trip, send me an email telling me when you will be gone. This email should also contain an explanation of how and when you will make up the work that you will be missing. I will then email you back with a deadline for when you must have the missed work made up.

Dropping the Course: The last day to drop the course is November 12. Students will not be allowed to drop after this date.

Outcomes: The desired outcomes of the course include, but are not limited to

1. the ability to simplify integer exponent expressions;
2. the ability to graph linear equations and write equations of lines;
3. the ability to use function notation;
4. the ability to solve a system of linear equations in two variables;
5. the ability to add, subtract, multiply, and divide polynomials;
6. the ability to factor quadratic polynomials.

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

Chain of Command: If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Academic Dishonesty - Cheating & Plagiarism: Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is defined as the use of another's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgment. Examples of plagiarism include: failing to use quotation marks when directly quoting from a source; failing to document distinctive ideas from a source; fabricating or inventing sources; and copying information from computer-based sources, e.g., the Internet.

Unauthorized Possession or Disposition of Academic Materials: Unauthorized possession or disposition of academic materials may include: selling or purchasing examinations, papers, reports or other academic work; taking another student's academic work without permission; possessing examinations, papers, reports, or other assignments not released by an instructor; and/or submitting the same paper for multiple classes without advance instructor authorization and approval.

ADA Accommodations Policy: It is the policy of Casper College to provide appropriate accommodations to any student with a documented disability. If you have a need for accommodation in this course, please make an appointment with our Accommodative Services Counselor at 268-2557.