Math 154A–2   Intermediate Algebra

Monday and Wednesday, 3:30 pm to 5:20 pm

Room   A 211

4 UNITS

Class Begins: 4-02-2012 Monday

Class Ends: 6-18-2012 Monday - Final Exam 4:00 pm - 5:50 pm

Instructor: Richard Lund

Course ID: MyMathLab   lund78835

Phone Numbers: 530-621-1904   (In Placerville, preferred)

541-5952   (Tahoe, when here) Only Placerville has an answering machine for messages.

e-mail: rwlund92@gmail.com   (Best way to reach me.)

LTCC home page: http://www.ltcc.cc.ca.us/   If you go to Academic Departments, then Math Department, then Math Resources, you will find a world of resources that will help you.

(Optional) Text Beginning and Intermediate Algebra, 4th edition by Elayn Martin-Gay

Required Software: It is underlined 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 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 have already purchased an access code for Math 152A for this textbook, you may also use it for this class at no extra cost. To access our class page, go to www.coursecompass.com and register using your student access code and the course ID for this class: **lund78835**

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

Calculator: Calculator adopted by the Math Department is the TI 89

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.

Methods of Assessing Student Learning Outcomes
1. Homework
2. Quizzes
3. Exams
4. Final exam
5. Projects
6. Presentation
7. Paper
8. Journal
9. Pre/post tests
10. Self-assessment

Students with disabilities please identify themselves to me within the first two weeks of class.
Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Students requiring accommodations for a certain disability that may affect class performance are requested to schedule with a staff member at the DRC to discuss this during the first week of the quarter so that appropriate arrangements can be made.
* Course materials available in alternate format.

Grading Policy:
    Your letter grade will be based on your percentage of possible points.

    A   90 to 100%
    B   80 to 89%
    C   70 to 79%
    D   60 to 69%

    Quizzes   7 points
    Homework   7 points
    Midterm 1   27 points
    Midterm 2   27 points
    Final Exam   32 points

    Total Points   100   Only two midterms are listed since it is assumed that you will
      want to turn in all your homework so that your lowest grade of three midterms is dropped.

Quizzes will be given at random intervals during the quarter to assess your progress. You must complete at least five quizzes. If you have more than five, and you have turned in all of your homework by the Final, the lowest grades of those in excess of five will be dropped so that your grade is based on the five best scores of your quizzes.

Exam Policy:

      Students are to bring calculators, pencils or pens and 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. Therefore, work must be shown in detail. Remember, my job is to communicate to you the concepts so that you can learn them. Your job in class or during an exam is to communicate to me how you would go about solving the problems. The more you communicate, that is, show me with steps and detail, the better your chances for partial credit. A simple answer, with no detail whatever, does not help me at all! You give me the communication and detail in your answers; and I will give you the best grade I can based on your communication and answer.

      Any student who cannot make it to an exam may elect to take the exam up to two days before the exam is scheduled. That exam will be conducted in the TRLC on the 2nd floor of the main building.

Homework Policy:

      Homework is for Your benefit. Homework is to be turned in at the end of each class on the date due. Homework may be turned in late.

      If a student has additional questions, that student may see me after class and then turn in the homework.

      Lecture will always be geared towards an explanation of the topics that will be covered on the homework assignment.

      Homework and Lecture assignments are on the Spreadsheet attached as page 4.

Extra Credit:

      Any student who has turned in every homework assignment may elect to work on an extra credit assignment or project that will count as additional points towards either a midterm or the final.

Registration:

      1. You must register for this class at the Office of Admissions and Records.

      2. Friday, Apr 27; Last day to drop the class with no penalty or mark on your record.

      3. Friday, May 18: Last day to drop the class and receive a grade of "W".

      4. After May 18, if you are enrolled, you will receive an A, B, C, D, F, or I (Incomplete, which must be negotiated with the instructor and is only allowed under special circumstances).

      In this class, it is your responsibility to drop the class in order to avoid an unwanted grade. You must go to the registrar by the above dates to avoid the unwanted grade.

Office Hours:

      I have no office here at the college. However, I am often available in the "common area" an hour or so before class; or you may call, email or see me before or after class to arrange to get together.

How to Succeed in a Math Class

1. Come to every class meeting.

2. Arrive early, get yourself settled, spend a few minutes looking at your notes from the previous class meeting, and have your materials ready when class starts.

3. Read each section before it is discussed in class.

4. Do ALL of the homework. Do some math every day.

5. Start preparing for the tests at least a week in advance.

6. Spend about half of your study time working with your classmates.

7. Take advantage of tutors and office hours, extra help can make a big difference.

8. Do not do homework in class.