

MAT 154-A

Syllabus

Spring 2013

Instructor:

Contact:

Lecture:

Textbook:

Daniel Arce.

arce@ltcc.edu: Extension #536

Monday&Wednesday 6:00 – 7:50 PM

Beginning and Intermediate Algebra

byElayn Martin-Gay

Course:

This course is a thorough continuation of MAT152A and MAT152B. Most of the topics which you learned in previous classes will be revisited and expanded upon. I urge you to review the relevant material before you embark on new concepts. It will save you quite a bit of time and heartache.

The course will begin with **Systems of Linear Equations**.

We will then jump in with both feet into **Function: Function Notation, Graphing of Functions, Transformation and Modification** of graphs and **Combination and Reversal** of Functions.

We will study **Logarithmic and Exponential Functions** which are really flip sides of the same idea.

We will graph **Conic Sections: Circles, Ellipses, Parabolas and Hyperbolas**.

We will finish the course with **Sequences & Series** and the **Binomial Theorem**.

Throughout the whole class we will examine some the practical applications of our new found knowledge... aka **Word Problems**.

By now most of you know that there is no 'Royal Road to Mathematics'. It is only learned through hard and consistent work. You also know by now that even the most intimidating concepts can be learned and then mastered by anyone who puts in the time.

Do Not fall behind. Most of the concepts we will study are based on previously learned material. Unless you are clear on previous lessons, you will find it almost impossible to learn the new material. If you see yourself falling behind, let me know. I will help you catch up. So please KEEP UP WITH THE COURSE.

Do not miss a single day of math class. It hurts.

It is important that you are always willing to interrupt class with questions. Even if your questions have to do with previous classes please ask them anyway. We will all appreciate it. Stupid questions do exist, but never about math.

You will need a Scientific Calculator for this class. It should have the **log** and the **ln** keys. Graphing calculators are not allowed.

REQUIRED SOFTWARE LICENSE:

In this class, it is required to have a software license for MyMathLab. Students have two choices.

The **firstchoice** is to purchase the textbook from the bookstore. The textbook comes with the software license for an additional cost of approximately \$5.

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 purchase a used textbook, you will also need to purchase the software license. This software license will also be good for Math 152B, Math 152BB, Math 154A & Math 154AA at no extra cost as long as you take those classes in a timely manner.

Our course id is: **arce25865**

For assistance using MyMathLab call 1-800-677-6337.

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

Homework and Quizzes with MyMathLab:

Homework will be done online using MyMathLab. Due dates are listed for you when you go online to do the assignments. Feel free to consult a fellow classmate, a tutor, your instructor, or anyone else for assistance on the homework. In addition, the computer will give you help with any problem, show you an example of a similar problem, and in some cases show you a video of someone teaching how to do that type of problem. You can work on homework after the due date and there may be penalties for being late. Online Quizzes will be taken in MymathLab. Before you take the quiz, make sure that you have done the homework for the sections covered in the quiz, read the appropriate sections in the textbook, watched the video(s) and received assistance from the computer, a tutor, or your instructor on any difficult topics. If you do not take a quiz on time, a zero will be recorded for that grade.

In Class-Quizzes and Exams:

We will have six **In-Class quizzes**, three **Exams** and one **Final Exam**. Most of your grade will depend on these. If you do all the homework along with the quizzes, and understand them, there should not be too much trouble with the In-Class Quizzes or Exams.

If you have a learning disability and would like to have more time to take your quizzes and exams, let me know. We will make arrangements.

WHERE TO FIND A COMPUTER ON CAMPUS:

Computers are available for your use in the following locations on campus:

- v Learning Assistance Center (LAC)* open Mon – Thu 10 – 6, Fri 10 – 6, Sat 11 – 3.
- v Math Success Center (MSC) * open Mon – Thu 9 – 6, Fri 10 – 6, Sat 11 – 3.
- v Open Labs in the D-wing which have available times posted by the door of each lab.

* Both the LAC and the MSC are in room 201.

Grading:

MyMathLab:	110 points	450 points and above	A
In-Class Quizzes:	120 points (20 points each)	400 - 449 points	B
Exams:	120 points (40 points each)	350 - 399 points	C
Final:	150 points.	300 - 349 points	D
		below 300	F

Your Exams and Final will include a very small amount of extra credit problems.

Tutoring:

You should know that this course, as well as any other math course, is quite labor intensive. This is especially so if you have not had the previous quarter of Algebra or if it has been more than a few months since your last math class. You may find that you need to study more than you ever expected just to keep up.

If you find yourself behind or do not understand some of the references made during lecture please come talk to me. You will see that many times a simple misunderstanding will make it seem like you do not understand a thing.

I will always be willing to make time for tutoring. Teaching Mathematics is my idea of time well spent so never hesitate to ask me for individual help. There are also many other fine Math tutors with set hours and free of charge, (what more could you ask for). Many times it helps to hear concepts explained by different sources so please make them feel useful.

Never hesitate to ask for help when it comes to Math and Science.

Registration:

You must be registered for this class by **April 19**

Last day to drop the class **without record** is **May 3**

Last day to drop with a **W** is **May 24**.

Our **Final** is scheduled for **Monday June 24 @ 6:00 PM**.

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.

SCHEDULE

April 8 10	Introduction Sections: 3.6, 8.2, 8.3
April 15 17	Sections: 4.4, 11.3 In class Quiz #1
April 22 24	Sections: 11.4 – 11.6 In class Quiz #2
April 29 May 1	Sections: 12.1, 12.2 In class Exam #1
May 6 8	Sections: 12.3 – 12.7 In class Quiz #3
May 13 15	Sections: 12.7, 12.8, 13.1 In class Quiz #4
May 20 22	Sections: 13.1, 13.2 Sections: 13.3
May 27 29	In class Exam #2 Sections: 13.4
June 3 5	Sections: 14.1, 14.2 In class Quiz #5
June 10 11	Sections: 14.3, 14.4 In class Quiz #6
June 17 19	Section: 14.5 In class Exam #3
June 24	FINAL