**MATH 90 Beginning Algebra FALL 2019**

MW 8 -9:15am Room 201

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Kavita Bhatia **OFFICE:** Room 207B

**PHONE:** 715-389-6548 **E-MAIL ADDRESS:** kbhatia@uwsp.edu

**OFFICE HOURS:** MW 9:15 -10:00 am and by appointment.

**Catalog Description:**

MATH 90. Beginning Algebra. 3 cr. Real numbers, solving linear equations,

exponents, polynomials, rational expressions. Algebra for those with low placement test scores who need practice in fundamental math skills. Does not count toward a degree.

**Text:** Elementary and Intermediate Algebra 5ed., Tussy and Gustafson. An e-book is available with WebAssign. You may purchase or rent a hard copy of the book if you desire.

**Required Materials: Webassign access code** to do your homework. An access code will be provided to Along with the access code you will need a Class key to enroll you into the correct section. The Class key for this course is **uwc 1874 2865**

**CALCULATORS:** You may use any four-function, scientific, or graphing calculator without a computer algebra system. **Cell phone calculators will not be allowed on exams and quizzes.** Please check with me if you have any questions about calculators**.** See the end of the syllabus for a list of prohibited calculators.

**CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:**

* All cellular phone, beepers, and electronic devices that could disrupt class should be in sleep mode or off while class is in session. Research supports that having visual access to a cell phone diminishes our ability to learn. Checking social media, texts, emails, and messages is unprofessional and disrespectful to our class community. Please turn off your phone during class; I will do so as well. If I notice that you are using your phone during class. I may ask you to share what you are researching or ask you to put it away. Thank you for following these guidelines as they help create a positive learning community.
* If you plan to attend class, be there at the beginning, be engaged and stay until the end.

**COURSE OUTCOMES:**

Students should understand and appreciate the following:

* Numbers and variables can be used to describe real life relationships.
* Laws and properties of algebra must be followed to maintain relationships between numbers and variables.
* Graphs provide a visual way to view and analyze relationships between variables.
* Problem solving skills allow us to approach real life problems, analyze how to solve them, and check our answers.
* Knowledge of exponents enables us to manipulate and solve polynomials.

**GRADING POLICY:** Your course grade will be computed as follows:

Quizzes 10%

Homework 20%

Participation 5%

3 Exams (15% each) 45%

Final Exam (Comprehensive) 20%

Total 100%

**ATTENDANCE:** Attending class will likely be the single most important factor in determining your performance and grade in the course, so plan to attend every class. In most class meetings you will have at least one activity that will impact your grade and count towards your participation. The relationship between attendance and achievement in education has been extensively documented in peer-reviewed research. ***I am not able to re-teach the material to you in the event that you are absent, but you can ask a classmate to share notes.*** You will not receive any attendance points if you miss more than five minutes of class.

Bonus points will be given for attendance as follows: 0-1absence: 1.0 % 2-3 absences: 0.5%

**GRADING SCALE:** Grades will be assigned according to the scale below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 93%--100% | A | 77%--79% | C+ |
| 90%--92% | A- | 73%--76% | C |
| 87%--89% | B+ | 70%--72% | C- |
| 83%--86% | B | 67%--69% | D+ |
| 80%--82% | B- | 60% -- 66% | D |
|  |  | 59% or less | F |

**QUIZZES:** There will be a quiz on most Wednesday’s. There will be **NO** make up quizzes. However the quiz with the lowest score will be dropped.

**HOMEWORK:** Homework will be done using WebAssign. Be prepared to spend 1-2 hours on each day’s assignment. Assignments will be due on Sundays by 11:59 pm. However in order to follow the material being presented in class it is imperative that you work on your homework throughout the week as the material is being presented. You can earn 20% bonus points by doing your homework early, 48 hours prior to the due date. So if you submit your homework that is due on Sunday by the Friday before, you can get the bonus points.

You need to register at the WebAssign website at <http://www.webassign.net>.

In addition to working out problems you will also have a pre-learning activity to complete for your upcoming class. This may consist of reading a section and taking some notes, watching a video or working out a couple of problems on paper to bring to class.

**EXAMS:** There will be 3 exams during the course of the semester and a comprehensive final. Make up exams will be given only in the case of a ***verifiable emergency***. **Your final exam will be a comprehensive, two hour, multiple choice exam. It is scheduled for Monday, December 16 12:30 – 2:30 pm.**

**ACCOMMODATION OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS:** Any student who cannot be present for a scheduled exam due to a religious observance will be provided with an alternative way of fulfilling that course requirement, provided the student notifies me ahead of time.

**ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:** Academic integrity and honesty are central to the mission of this institution. All cases of academic misconduct will be treated according to the procedures laid out in UWS 14. UWS 14 allows for disciplinary sanctions that range from an oral reprimand to suspension or expulsion from the University. You can obtain a copy of the academic misconduct policy through the Student Services office.

**Prohibited Calculators:** Not permitted are calculators with built in computer algebra systems, pocket organizers, *calculators built into cellular phones or other wireless communication devices*, handheld or laptop computers, electronic writing pads or pen-input devices (the Sharp EL 9600 is permitted), **calculators built into cellular phones or other wireless communication devices**, calculators with a typewriter keypad with keys in QWERTY format (calculators with letter keys not in QWERTY format are permitted), calculators with built-in computer algebra systems,

**prohibited calculators** in this category include: Casio: Algebra fx 2.0, ClassPad 300, and all model numbers that begin with CFX-9970G, Texas Instruments: All model numbers that begin with TI-89 or TI-92, and TI-Nspire CAS, Hewlett-Packard: hp 48GII and all model numbers that begin with hp 40G or hp 49G.  Calculators which have been modified such as calculators with paper tape (remove the tape), calculators that make noise (turn off the sound feature), calculators that can communicate wirelessly with other calculators (completely cover the infrared data port with heavy opaque material, such as duct tape or electrician's tape (includes Hewlett-Packard HP-38G series and HP-48G)).

Please do not wait to get help if you are having trouble. The only way to learn mathematics is by doing it. **Be persistent, be positive and do not fall behind!**

*Do not worry about your difficulties in mathematics. I assure you that mine are still greater!*

 *Albert Einstein*

Course

Homework is due on Sunday night.

Students need to read or watch a video prior to class and work out a few simple problems before coming to class. The problems should be neatly done and any formulas that are used should be stated.

1. Homework questions
2. Check if there are any questions on reading or video. Do a couple of examples together.
3. Have problems ready for them to work. Problems that go into the material more deeper. Divide students into groups of three. Put up 8 problems. Students work on the problems individually. Then discuss with their group and one person presents on the board. Go over all the problems together. Repeat the process