

Math 90 – Syllabus Spring 2019 (Section 2C)

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Office hours:

Mon: 2-2:50 pm

Tues & Thurs: 10-10:50 am

Wed: 9-9:50 am

Sec 2 1:00 - 1:50 p.m.

MTu Th CCC 212

W CCC 302 (MathPad)

I am available many more hours than posted office hours. Please stop in. All are welcome.

Math 90 - Beginning Algebra: 3 cr. We will develop and practice math skills in the following areas: real numbers, problem solving, graphing, linear equations, exponents, polynomials, factoring, quadratic equations, and rational expressions.

Course Outcomes: Students will 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.

Critical Thinking: This course will include discussion of critical-thinking dispositions with the goal of helping students be better lifelong learners while developing skills that employers often list as desirable. There is an expectation that students will embrace these opportunities within this course.

Text: Elementary & Intermediate Algebra, 5th Ed., by Alan S. Tussy and R. David Gustafson, customized for UWSP.

MathPad: CCC 302. MathPad is both a classroom and free tutoring lab for students enrolled in Math 90, 95, and 107 courses.

Math Tutoring Room: A113A Science. UWSP students provide free tutoring on a drop-in basis for all math courses.

See <http://www.uwsp.edu/mathsci/Pages/tutoring.aspx> for details of above tutoring services.

Tutoring Learning Center (TLC): Individual and group tutoring is available for many subjects, including math. See <https://www.uwsp.edu/tlc/Pages/CA-tutoring.aspx> for details, or ask your instructor.

Evidence suggests that students seeking tutoring support tend to have a higher overall GPA. Students are encouraged to study at the various drop-in tutoring sites on campus, and seek help as necessary. Be proactive and don't be shy!

Attendance: Regular attendance is required. Students are expected to use MathPad (i.e. FREE TUTORING) or other resources for additional support.

Wednesday tutor sessions will meet in MathPad (CCC 302) and a tutor will be available to assist students with homework questions. Attendance is required, and in-class assignments may be given or due on these days. **Quizzes will be scheduled on tutoring days. Lectures may be scheduled on Wednesdays as well.**

Absences for serious illness, family emergencies, or University sponsored activities may be excused provided you adequately notify the instructor by e-mail prior to intended absence or provide documentation of an emergency. **Arrangements must be made PRIOR to the test date. Late quizzes and tests will not be given for unexcused absences.** Attendance will be recorded; the instructor may award homework points for attendance.

Calculators: You may use any four-function, scientific, or graphing calculator, ***except*** calculators including pocket organizers, handheld or laptop computers, electronic writing pads, pen-input devices or ***calculators built into cellular phones or other wireless communication devices***, calculators with a typewriter keypad with keys in QWERTY format, 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, Hewlett-Packard: hp 48GII and all model numbers that begin with hp 40G or hp 49G. ***Sharing calculators during exams/quizzes is not allowed.***

Homework: Homework is assigned ***daily*** and will consist primarily of problems on WebAssign. In addition, worksheets, in-class assignments and other opportunities will be handed out in class. Missed in-class assignments won't be available to make up unless you have an excused absence and may require meeting with the instructor. Penalties will be assessed on late homework assignments on WebAssign (see below). **All other late assignments will be accepted at the discretion of the instructor.** If assignments are late due to an excused absence, penalties will be waived if reasonable and ***timely communication*** is received by the instructor. Extra credit opportunities will be not be accepted late.

Late Penalties for WebAssign assignments:

- If an extension is requested (via WebAssign) within one week of the due date, 24 hours will be granted with a 20% penalty.
- All other extensions will be at the discretion of the instructor and may require meeting with the instructor.

Grading: Grades will be based on the following percentages:

Homework: 25%
Critical Thinking: 5%
Quizzes: 15%
Tests: 35%
Final Exam: 20%

93 - 100%	A	77 - 79.99 %	C+
90 - 92.99	A-	73 - 76.99	C
87 - 89.99	B+	70 - 72.99	C-
83 - 86.99	B	67 - 69.99	D
80 - 82.99	B-	0 - 66.99	F

No grading category will exceed 105% for purposes of calculating the final grade.

Students that score less than 75% on exams and quizzes are expected to visit the instructor in her office to discuss within a week of the assessment being returned. Please bring the exam or quiz with you. It is recommended you seek help on the problems and be able to discuss them with the instructor at the meeting.

Completing the final exam is required for passing the course. *To receive a C or higher in the course, a student must score at least 60% on the final exam.* If the calculated final course grade is above 67%, but the final exam score is less than 60%, the student will earn a D in the course, unless the instructor chooses higher based on academic performance.

The instructor reserves the right to exercise discretion in raising a student's grade if she feels that the final weighted average does not properly reflect the quality of a student's work. The instructor will not use discretionary judgment to lower a student's final grade.

Final Exam: The final is a *written* exam on Monday, May 13 at 5 p.m.

Electronics: Cell phones should be turned off during class time. Exceptions may be made for unusual circumstances if discussed with the instructor prior to use. Earphones/buds may **not** be used during lectures, quizzes or exams. Cell phones and smart watches need to be stowed in a backpack during exams and quizzes.

WebAssign, UWSP E-mail & D2L: All of these resources will be used for communication between the instructor and students. Students will be responsible (i.e. **required**) for reading all messages and assignments posted on any of the above and in lecture.

Occasionally, the instructor will email students with concern about academic performance and will request an office visit. The student is expected to reply and schedule an appointment.

Incompletes: A grade of incomplete may be given when circumstances arise which are beyond the student's control and the student is unable to complete the course. The students **MUST** be passing the course when the circumstances arise is able to independently complete the course.

General Course Policies

1. Tests and Quizzes **MUST** be **ONLY** your own work. You are encouraged to work together or ask for assistance on homework (unless otherwise specified), but **it is your responsibility to understand the content.**

2. Generally, it is my policy to **not** allow make-up tests or quizzes. An exception is likely to be made provided you make your request **in advance** of the test or quiz. The make-up date will need to be within a reasonable timeframe and at the convenience of the instructor.

3. Appeal of grading should be submitted in writing within 5 days of receiving the evaluation.

Disability Accommodations: UWSP is committed to providing reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students with disabilities and temporary impairments. If you have a disability or acquire a condition during the semester where you need assistance, please contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center (DATC) in 609 Albertson Hall as soon as possible. For information: <http://www.uwsp.edu/disability> or call 715-346-3365.

If you have accommodations, please take time to discuss them in person with your instructor.

If you are allergic or fearful of dogs, please contact DATC if a service dog is in your course.

Community Bill of Rights and Responsibilities: You should be fully aware of your rights and responsibilities as a UWSP student. These are detailed in the UWSP Community Rights and Responsibilities found at <https://www.uwsp.edu/dos>.

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources at <http://www.uwsp.edu/DOS/sexualassault/Pages/default.aspx>.

Suggestions for success:

- **Be responsible** for your *own learning* and treat it as your current job!
- **Communicate** with your instructor as though she was your employer!
- **Read** the book and **review** examples and/or **review online resources**.
- **Attend** lectures and **engage** your brain in the content.
- **Do** assigned problems (and practice problems) to understand concepts.
- **Ask** questions before, during, and after class or online at your convenience.
- **Visit** your instructor at her office.
- **Utilize** UWSP resources to seek additional help.
- **Ask** classmates and likewise, **help** classmates when asked.
- **Understand** the content and an acceptable grade will likely follow.

*The true test of understanding a concept or skill is being able to **teach it** to someone else.*