

**MATH 90-08: Beginning Algebra**



**Instructor**

Katie Holt

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Office: Zoom

Zoom Office Hours: Tuesdays 1:30pm-2:30pm & Wednesdays 10:15am-11:15am

**Class Schedule**

September 2 – December 11; MoTuTh 9:00am – 9:50am, Virtual Classroom  
Fr 9:00am – 9:50am, Study Day/MathPad/TLC

**Course Description**

MATH 90 – Beginning Algebra, 3 credit hours

Real Numbers, Solving Linear Equations, Exponents, Polynomials, Rational Expressions. Algebra for those with low placement scores who need practice with fundamental math skills. Does not count towards a degree.

**Course Structure**

This course will be delivered entirely online through Zoom and Canvas. You will use your UWSP account to login to the course from the [Canvas Login Page](#), which contains the Zoom links for our course. If you have not activated your UWSP account, please visit the [Manage Your Account](#) page to do so.

**Required Materials and Online Registration**

- *Elementary and Intermediate Algebra*, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition by Tussy and Gustafson, **WebAssign access** (comes with eText).
  - We will be using WebAssign for homework from the book. Go to [www.webassign.net](http://www.webassign.net). Our **class key** is **uwsp 7855 2285**. You will be given a WebAssign access code for the semester, you do not need to purchase this on your own.
- You may use any four-function, scientific, or graphing calculator without a computer algebra system. **Cell phone calculators will not be allowed on exams.** Please check with me if you have any questions about calculators.
- Computer/tablet with microphone and webcam.

## Grading

Your final grade will be based on your effort and success with four graded chapter tests, the final examination, and homework. The table below shows the graded course components with ***tentative*** dates (*chapter test dates could change!*):

Item	Tentative Date(s)
WebAssign Homework	Ongoing -- Homework due dates found on WebAssign
Test #1: Chapter 1	September 29
Test #2: Chapters 2 & 3	October 22
Test #3: Chapter 5	November 12
Test #4: Chapter 6	December 1
Cumulative final exam, <i>including sections covered in Chapters 10 &amp; 7</i>	December 14, 5pm – 7pm

The following will comprise your final grade:

- Assignments: 40%
- Chapter Tests: 40%
- Final Exam: 20%

**Assignments:** Daily homework assignments will be completed via WebAssign. Each section of every chapter we cover will have assigned homework problems that will be due the day of the exam, an hour before the exam. WebAssign will not be reopened for late submission of homework.

**Chapter Tests:** Tests on chapter material will be done online (most likely through WebAssign). You may use calculators, but no computers, notes, formula sheets, or books are allowed unless stated otherwise. Make-up chapter tests will not be allowed unless an excused absence has been documented. Please contact me before the test if you know there is going to be an issue.

**Final Exam:** There will be a final exam online in Canvas on December 14 from 5pm-7pm. It will cover all material previously covered in the course.

**Attendance:** Attendance will not count explicitly in the calculation of your grade, but attending class is imperative since all of the tests and final exam will be mostly based on what we cover in class. If you miss a class, please obtain the lecture notes from the posted Zoom lecture in Canvas or a classmate.

## **Grading Scale**

Final grades will be based on the percentages shown below. I reserve the right to lower/raise these cutoff points. The cutoff points are:

94%- 100%	A	80%- 83%	B-	67%-69%	D+
90%- 93%	A-	77%-79%	C+	64%-66%	D
87%- 89%	B+	74%-76%	C	60%-63%	D-
84%- 86%	B	70%-73%	C-	0%-59%	F

## **Sections to be covered**

### *Chapter 1*

- 1.1 Introducing the Language of Algebra
- 1.2 Fractions
- 1.3 The Real Numbers
- 1.4 Adding Real Numbers; Properties of Addition
- 1.5 Subtracting Real Numbers
- 1.6 Multiplying and Dividing Real Numbers; Multiplication and Division Properties
- 1.7 Exponents and Order of Operations
- 1.8 Algebraic Expressions
- 1.9 Simplifying Algebraic Expressions Using Properties of Real Numbers

### *Chapter 2*

- 2.1 Solving Equations Using Properties of Equality
- 2.2 More about Solving Equations
- 2.3 Applications of Percent
- 2.4 Formulas
- 2.5 Problem Solving
- 2.6 More about Problem Solving

### *Chapter 3*

- 3.1 Graphing Using the Rectangular Coordinate System
- 3.2 Graphing Linear Equations
- 3.3 Intercepts

### *Chapter 5*

- 5.1 Rules for Exponents
- 5.2 Zero and Negative Exponents
- 5.3 Scientific Notation
- 5.4 Polynomials
- 5.5 Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
- 5.6 Multiplying Polynomials
- 5.7 Special Products
- 5.8 Dividing Polynomials

### *Chapter 6*

- 6.1 The Greatest Common Factor; Factoring by Grouping
- 6.2 Factoring Trinomials of the Form  $x^2 + bx + c$

- 6.3 Factoring Trinomials of the Form  $ax^2 + bx + c$
- 6.4 Factoring Perfect-Squares Trinomials and the Difference of Two Squares
- 6.6 A Factoring Strategy
- 6.7 Solving Quadratic Equations by Factoring

#### *Chapter 10*

- 10.2.2 The Quadratic Formula (Basics only; consider only rational values)

#### *Chapter 7*

- 7.1 Simplifying Rational Expressions
- 7.2.3 Convert Units of Measurement
- 7.8 Proportions and Similar Triangles

### **Tutoring-Learning Center (TLC)**

The Tutoring-Learning Center (TLC) offers free group, drop-in, and individual tutoring to support you in your math classes. The tutors are UWSP students who have done well in their classes and who are here to share their successful study habits and math content knowledge to help others succeed. Discussing mathematical concepts and practicing problems together clarifies and solidifies knowledge, and the tutors are eager to study with you. If you have questions about the schedules or would like to make an appointment, please contact the TLC via email ([tlctutor@uwsp.edu](mailto:tlctutor@uwsp.edu)) or phone (715-346-3568) for information.

### **Math Room**

The Math Room provides free tutoring on a drop-in basis for all math courses. For more information visit <https://www.uwsp.edu/mathsci/Pages/tutoring.aspx>.

### **MathPad**

The MathPad is both a classroom and free tutoring lab for students enrolled in MATH 90/95/107. For more information visit <https://www.uwsp.edu/mathsci/Pages/tutoring.aspx>.

### **UWSP Technology Support**

- Seek assistance from the [IT Service Desk](#) (Formerly HELP Desk)
  - IT Service Desk Phone: 715-346-4357 (HELP)
  - IT Service Desk Email: [techhelp@uwsp.edu](mailto:techhelp@uwsp.edu)

### **University Policy Regarding Students with Disabilities**

If you have a documented disability and verification from the Disability and Assistive Technology Center and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact your instructor as soon as possible. It is the student's responsibility to provide documentation of disability to Disability Services and meet with a Disability Services counselor to request special accommodation *before* classes start.

The Disability and Assistive Technology Center is located in 609 Albertson Hall and can be contacted by phone at (715) 346-3365 or via email at [datctr@uwsp.edu](mailto:datctr@uwsp.edu).

### **Understand When You May Drop This Course**

It is the student's responsibility to understand when they need to consider unenrolling from a course. Refer to the UWSP [Academic Calendar](#) for dates and deadlines for registration. After this period, a serious and compelling reason is required to drop from the course. Serious and compelling reasons includes: (1) documented and significant change in work hours, leaving student unable to attend class, or (2) documented and severe physical/mental illness/injury to the student or student's family.

### **Statement of Academic Integrity**

Academic Integrity is an expectation of each UW-Stevens Point student. Campus community members are responsible for fostering and upholding an environment in which student learning is fair, just, and honest. Through your studies as a student, it is essential to exhibit the highest level of personal honesty and respect for the intellectual property of others. Academic misconduct is unacceptable. It compromises and disrespects the integrity of our university and those who study here. To maintain academic integrity, a student must only claim work which is the authentic work solely of their own, providing correct citations and credit to others as needed. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, and/or helping others commit these acts are examples of academic misconduct, which can result in disciplinary action. Failure to understand what constitutes academic misconduct does not exempt responsibility from engaging in it. Students suspected of academic misconduct will be asked to meet with the instructor to discuss the concerns. If academic misconduct is evident, procedures for determining disciplinary sanctions will be followed as outlined in the [University System Administrative Code, Chapter 14](#).

### **MATH 90 Learning Outcomes**

- To simplify algebraic expressions by using the properties of real numbers.
- To solve equations and inequalities.
- To graph linear equations and inequalities in two variables and three forms.
- To add, subtract, multiply and divide polynomials.
- To factor polynomials
- To use quadratic formula to solve quadratics with rational values.

**This syllabus is subject to change and you are responsible for keeping up with any changes and announcements.**