

East Los Angeles College
Department of Mathematics
Math 115 Beginning Algebra (5 Units)
Hybrid
Fall 2014 – Syllabus

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Gabriel Castro

Office: The Math Lab K5 – 104

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Office Phone Number: (323) 267-3765

Instructor's Website: www.gcastromath.com

Office Hours: Monday – 2:00 – 3:30, Tuesday/Thursday – 12:30 – 2:00pm

Times subject to change due to meetings.

If you would like to make an appointment, please send me an email.

Course Information:

Section: 1439

Classroom: K7 – 109

Class Time: Monday 12:30 – 1:50pm

Prerequisite:

Satisfactory completion of Mathematics 110, 112 or acceptable level of skill as demonstrated in the mathematics placement process.

Course Description:

This course covers the fundamentals of beginning algebra. The topics presented include signed numbers, evaluation of algebraic expressions, exponents, solving equations, polynomials, factoring, rational expressions, graphs, systems of equations, inequalities, topics in geometry, and applications.

Suggested Course Outline:

Unit #1

Chapter 1: Introduction to Algebraic Expressions

Chapter 2: Equations, Inequalities, and Problem Solving

Unit #2

Chapter 3: Introduction to Graphing

Chapter 8: Systems of Linear Equations and Problem Solving

8.1 Systems of Equations in Two Variables

8.2 Solving by Substitution or Elimination

8.3 Solving Applications: Systems of Two Equations

Chapter 9: Inequalities and Problem Solving

9.4 Inequalities in Two Variables

Unit #3

Chapter 4: Polynomials

Chapter 5: Polynomials and Factoring

Unit #4

Chapter 6: Rational Expressions and Equations

Simplifying Radicals, Square root method & the Quadratic Formula

Parabolas & Completing the Square

Course Materials:

Required Online Component: MathXL via www.mathxl.com

Course Name: ELAC_Math115HYB_Fall14

MathXL Course ID: XL1N-S16X-401Y-4OW2

NOTE: Students will be dropped if MathXL is not purchased by September 8, 2014

Text: Elementary & Intermediate Algebra, Concepts & Applications Fifth edition, by Bittinger or
Elementary & Intermediate Algebra, Concepts & Applications Third edition for East Los Angeles College, by Bittinger

NOTE: The text book is not required.

Study Guide: Beginning Algebra Study Guide which students must purchase at the bookstore.

Calculator: Scientific calculator is recommended, but not required.
Calculators are **not allowed** during exams.

Grading:

Online Homework:	10%	A = 90% – 100%
Take-home Exams (4):	4%	B = 80% – 89%
Study Guide Assignments (4):	4%	C = 70% – 79%
Quizzes:	12%	D = 55% – 69%
Unit Exams (4):	40%	F = 0% – 54%
Comprehensive Final:	30%	

Student Learning Outcome (SLO):

After successfully completing Math 115, the student will be able to

- 1.) Solve a quadratic equation by method of factoring.
- 2.) Given a linear equation in standard form, students will:
 - (a) Write the equation in slope-intercept form
 - (b) Determine the slope
 - (c) Determine the y-intercept
 - (d) Graph the equation

Attendance:

Attendance is the student's responsibility. Students are expected to be present at every class meeting. Failure to attend class will result in missing valuable information. All students are solely responsible for all information missed as a result of an absence. It is the student's responsibility to find out what they missed from their classmates.

If a student is absent at least 2 days of class, the student will be dropped from the class.

Homework:

Homework assignments are posted on Math XL and are all on-line.

There is a "soft due date" for each homework assignment. This means a student can work on the assignment after the "soft due date", but 10% will be deducted from the final score per day.

After the "soft due date", the student will have 2 days to complete and submit the assignment.

Take-Home Exams:

Take-Home Exams are posted on Math XL. Students must print them out and perform all relevant work on them. Take-Home Exams are due the day of the unit exam. These assignments are meant to act as a “Practice Exam”.

Take-Home Exams must be completed as follows:

- i. Legible
- ii. If a pencil is used, then all apparent mistakes must be erased. Not scribbled over.
- iii. If a pen is used, then all apparent mistakes must be covered with white-out. Not scribbled over.
- iv. Completed to the best of the student’s ability. **All exercises must be attempted.**
- v. When turned in, all sheets of paper must be stapled in order.

If a Take-Home Exam is not submitted in this manner, the student will receive a grade of zero for the assignment.

Only selected problems will be graded.

Late Take-Home Exams will not be accepted and no extensions will be given. No exceptions.

Study Guide Assignments:

Beginning Algebra Study Guides are sold at the book store and students must purchase the packet. Each assignment will consist of exercises to reiterate main topics from the unit. Study Guide Assignments due dates will be stated throughout the semester.

Study Guide Assignments must be completed as follows:

- vi. Legible
- vii. If a pencil is used, then all apparent mistakes must be erased. Not scribbled over.
- viii. If a pen is used, then all apparent mistakes must be covered with white-out. Not scribbled over.
- ix. Completed to the best of the student’s ability. **All exercises must be attempted.**
- x. When turned in, all sheets of paper must be stapled in order.

If a Study Guide Assignment is not submitted in this manner, the student will receive a grade of zero for the assignment.

Only selected problems will be graded.

Late Study Guide Assignments will not be accepted and no extensions will be given. No exceptions.

Quizzes:

There will be 2 types of quizzes, 1. Online and 2. Take-Home.

1. The online quizzes will be on completed on Math XL and are due by 11:59pm of the night that they are assigned. They are timed and students have 30 minutes to complete each quiz. Students will have 2 attempts to complete each quiz and the higher score will be recorded.
2. The Take-Home quizzes are intended to encourage students to attend class regularly, take good notes and use them as a study guide. Students must print out these quizzes that are posted online on Math XL. They must be completed as follows:
 - i. Legible
 - ii. If a pencil is used, then all apparent mistakes must be erased not scribbled over.
 - iii. If a pen is used, then all apparent mistakes must be covered with white-out not scribbled over.
 - iv. Completed to the best of the student's ability. **All exercises must be attempted.**
 - v. When turned in, if there are multiple sheets of paper they must be stapled in order.

If a Take-Home Quiz is not submitted in this manner, the student will receive a grade of zero for the assignment.

Late Quizzes will not be accepted and no extensions will be given. No exceptions.

Unit Exams:

Unit Exams must be completed as follows:

- i. Legible
- ii. If a pencil is used, then all apparent mistakes must be erased. Not scribbled over. If a pen is used, then all apparent mistakes must be covered with white-out. Not scribbled over.

If a Unit Exam is not submitted in this manner, the student will receive a grade of zero for the assignment.

Exam #1:

Chapter 1: Fundamentals
Chapter 2: Functions

Exam #2:

Chapter 3: Polynomial and Rational Functions
Chapter 4: Exponential and Logarithmic Functions

Exam #3:

Chapter 9: Systems of Equations and Inequalities
Chapter 10: Analytic Geometry
Chapter 11: Sequences and Series

Final Exam Date & Time:

Monday, December 15, 2014

12:00 – 2:00pm

Extra Credit:

Attending the Math Tutoring Lab for at least one hour a week, for the entire semester, will give the student 4% extra credit.

Student Information

Refer to the East Los Angeles College General Catalog 2013 – 2015, Pages 25 – 40.

Board Rule 9803.12 Dishonesty – East Los Angeles College – Policy On Academic Honesty

Refer to the East Los Angeles General Catalog 2013 – 2015 page 25.

Student Services

Refer to the East Los Angeles College General Catalog 2013 – 2015, Pages 41 – 49.

Disabled Student Program and Services (DSPS) – East Los Angeles College

Refer to the East Los Angeles General Catalog 2013 – 2015 pages 43 – 44.

Scholastic Policies

Refer to the East Los Angeles College General Catalog 2013 – 2015, Pages 50 – 67.

Electronic Device Class Policy:

An electronic device such as a cell phone, PDA, MP3 player (earphones included), Bluetooth device, computer and recording device may not be out and may not be used while the class is in session. Students must put all such devices away while the class is in session. If a student is caught with an electronic device in class, the student will be asked to leave for the remaining of the class meeting. Furthermore, being caught with an electronic device will result in a deduction of 25% on the upcoming unit exam. In order to not be deducted 25% on the unit exam, the student must submit an extra assignment that will be determined by the instructor.

Definition of caught with an electronic device in class:

If I see it the electronic device, if I hear the electronic device (that includes a phone ringing, beeping, vibrating, etc), if I see anyone texting or if I see any one checking their electronic device while the class is in session. This also means that the student will close all book bags, purses, etc and set them next to them on the floor or under their chair. The student will not be allowed to place their bag on top of their desk or on their lap while the class is in session. I suggest that each student turn off their phone put it away.

Fall 2014
East Los Angeles College Academic Calendar

Monday, September 01	HOLIDAY - College Closed (Labor Day)
Tuesday, September 02	Day & Evening Classes Begin
September 02 - Sept. 12	Late Registration Period - Add Permit by Instructor Permission Only
Friday, September 12	*ADD DEADLINE-Last Day to Submit Add or Audit Permits in person for Full-Term Classes <i>(Date for short term classes is approximately 20% of term, please verify with Admissions Office or instructor)</i>
Sunday, September 14	*DROP DEADLINE #1- Last Day to Drop Classes Online Without Having to Pay Fees Last Day to Drop Classes Online Without "W" <i>(Date for short term classes vary, please verify with Admissions Office or instructor)</i>
Sept. 09 - Dec. 19	Graduation Petition Period
Friday, September 26	Last Day to Return Parking Permits
Friday, October 10	Last Day to File for Pass/No Pass <i>(Date for short term classes vary, please verify with Admissions Office or instructor)</i>
Monday, November 3	Check Refunds Mailed (for students who paid with check)
Friday, November 07	Last Day for Section Transfers
Tuesday, November 11	HOLIDAY - College Closed (Veterans Day)
Sunday, November 23	*DROP DEADLINE #2 - Last Day to Drop Classes Online with a "W" <i>(Date for short term classes vary, please verify with Admissions Office or instructor)</i>
Thursday - Sunday, November 27 - Nov. 30	HOLIDAY - College Closed (Thanksgiving)
Sunday, December 14	Last Day of Full Term Class Instruction
December 15 - Dec. 21	Final Examinations
Sunday, December 21	Fall 2014 Semester Ends

Math 115 Calendar

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	9/1/2014	9/2/2014	9/3/2014	9/4/2014	9/5/2014
	Holiday				
2	9/8/2014	9/9/2014	9/10/2014	9/11/2014	9/12/2014
	Ch.1 Ch.2				
3	9/15/2014	9/16/2014	9/17/2014	9/18/2014	9/19/2014
	Ch.2				
4	9/22/2014	9/23/2014	9/24/2014	9/25/2014	9/26/2014
	Unit Exam #1				
5	9/29/2014	9/30/2014	10/1/2014	10/2/2014	10/3/2014
	Ch. 3				
6	10/6/2014	10/7/2014	10/8/2014	10/9/2014	10/10/2014
	Ch. 3 Ch.8				
7	10/13/2014	10/14/2014	10/15/2014	10/16/2014	10/17/2014
	Ch. 8 Ch.9				
8	10/20/2014	10/21/2014	10/22/2014	10/23/2014	10/24/2014
	Unit Exam #2				

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9	10/27/2014	10/28/2014	10/29/2014	10/30/2014	10/31/2014
	Ch. 4				
10	11/3/2014	11/4/2014	11/5/2014	11/6/2014	11/7/2014
	Ch. 5				
11	11/10/2014	11/11/2014	11/12/2014	11/13/2014	11/14/2014
	Ch. 5	Holiday			
12	11/17/2014	11/18/2014	11/19/2014	11/20/2014	11/21/2014
	Unit Exam #3				
13	11/24/2014	11/25/2014	11/26/2014	11/27/2014	11/28/2014
	Ch. 6			Holiday	Holiday
14	12/1/2014	12/2/2014	12/3/2014	12/4/2014	12/5/2014
	Ch.6 Quadratic Eq.				
15	12/8/2014	12/9/2014	12/10/2014	12/11/2014	12/12/2014
	Unit Exam #4				
16	12/15/2014	12/16/2014	12/17/2014	12/18/2014	12/19/2014
	Final Exam				

➤ Note: Syllabus subject to change at the instructor's discretion.