

MAT 105: Algebra

Fall 2009

Instructor: Joanna Guild

Class Meetings: MWF: 9:10 - 10:10, Boone 109

Office: Boone 112

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Office Phone: 459-5069 (email is the best way to get in touch with me)

Office Hours: MW 11 - 1, Tu 9 - 10, F 10:30 - 11:30, OR by appointment. Drop-ins are welcome any time.

Course Website: <http://www.collegeofidaho.edu/academics/MathPhysics/faculty/guild.asp>

WeBWorK: <http://docralph.collegeofidaho.edu/webwork2>

Text: *Intermediate Algebra for College Students*, Blitzer, 5th Edition

Course Description: This course is designed to be an intensive study of algebra, graphs, and functions to prepare students for classes such as MAT 112 and MAT 123. We will work on understanding graphs and properties of functions, with a focus on linear, polynomial, and rational functions. In doing so, we will also discuss linear and quadratic equations, linear and compound inequalities, absolute value equations and inequalities, systems of linear equations, and basic factoring techniques.

Grading: What grade is earned will be based on the following.

Attendance and Participation (5%): It is expected that every student attend each class meeting and arrive on time, prepared to participate in class activities and discussions. Make sure to bring a calculator to class with you each day. I cannot overemphasize the importance of coming to class and keeping up with the material. Please complete all homework assignments thoroughly and seek extra help as soon as possible if you are having any problems with the coursework. If you have to miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what material was missed.

Homework (10%): Homework is an important part of the course. Concepts **must** be practiced in order to have enough experience with the ideas to become successful, especially in exam situations. Homework will be assigned at most class meetings and will consist of problems from the book to be completed online in WeBWorK.

Group Work (8%): About once a week, we will devote some class time to completing in-class worksheets in small groups. The worksheets will consist of problems that relate to the current ideas in the course, but may examine those ideas more in-depth or from a different angle than discussed in lecture. These will be graded for correctness as well as completion. Your work must be legible, random math expressions floating in space will receive no credit. The worksheets will be taken up at the start of the following class period, so if any questions arise outside of class make sure to seek out solutions before the following class day. If class must be missed for an acceptable reason (such as illness or a school-sponsored event), you must turn in your work **in advance**, otherwise it will be considered late.

Late work policy: Each student is allowed three late assignments (homework and/or group work) with no penalty, after that half credit will be given for each late assignment. Late assignments must be completed and turned in prior to the exam covering the material.

Exams (54%): We will have 3 one-hour midterm exams. No make-up exams will be given without a legitimate excuse given well in advance of the exam date. Tentative dates for the one-hour exams are noted on the calendar on the back of this page.

Final Exam (23%): We will have a comprehensive final exam. This final exam will be Wednesday, December 16th from 1:30 to 4:30 in our usual classroom.

Grading Policy: Your course grade will be based on the categories listed above. Grades will be assigned according to the standard scale:

90 - 92%	A-	93 - 100%	A
80 - 82%	B-	83 - 86%	B
70 - 72%	C-	73 - 76%	C
60 - 62%	D-	63 - 66%	D
Below 60%	F	67 - 69%	D+

Academic Integrity: Working together is encouraged, but assignments must be written up individually. Copied work will receive no credit – even if the work was discussed in collaboration with a classmate before write-up. In addition, it is expected that each student know and adhere to the College of Idaho Honor Code:

The College of Idaho is a community of integrity; therefore, we, the students, seek to promulgate a community in which integrity is valued, expected, and practiced. We are honor bound to refrain from cheating, stealing, or lying about College-related business. We are obligated to examine our own actions in light of their effect on the community, and we are responsible to address any violations of these community standards.

Anyone found to be involved in academic dishonesty will receive the harshest punishment deemed acceptable.

MAT 105 Tentative Schedule:

Week		Monday	Wednesday	Friday
Sept 7 to 11	0			Orientation & 1.1
Sept 14 to 18	1	1.2 – 1.3	1.3 – 1.4	1.5
Sept 21 to 25	2	1.5	1.6	1.7 & 2.1
Sept 28 to Oct 2	3	2.1 - 2.2	2.2	2.3
Oct 5 to 9	4	2.4	2.5	Exam 1
Oct 12 to 16	5	3.1	3.2	4.1
Oct 19 to 23	6	4.2	4.3	4.3
Oct 26 to 30		<i>No Class- Fall Break!</i>		
Nov 2 to 6	7	5.1 – 5.2	5.2	Exam 2
Nov 9 to 13	8	5.3 – 5.4	5.4 – 5.5	5.6
Nov 16 to 20	9	5.7	5.7	6.1
Nov 23 to 27	10	6.1	6.2	<i>No Class</i>
Nov 30 to Dec 4	11	6.2	6.2	Exam 3
Dec 7 to 11	12	6.6	6.6	Review

Students who have documented disabilities as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act and who need any test or course materials to be furnished in an alternative format should notify me immediately. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of these students.