Mth070 Elementary Algebra
Syllabus - Individualized Study Sections

Course Description: This course is for students with a background in solving linear equations and elementary graphing. The following topics are covered: linear equations, linear systems, linear inequalities in one and two variables, quadratic equations, negative exponents, scientific notation, and dimensional analysis in verbal, numerical, graphical and symbolic forms. These topics are explored with a graphing calculator and in traditional approaches.

Prerequisite: MTH060 Introductory Algebra or equivalent with C or better

Textbook: Elementary Algebra, by Toby Wagner

Calculator: A graphing calculator is required for this course. If you currently have a graphing calculator, check with your instructor regarding its compatibility with this course. If you do not have a graphing calculator, a Texas Instruments model TI-83 or TI-84 is recommended for most students.

Web Address: http://faculty.chemeketa.edu/tmerzeni/mathcenter/

Class Procedures:

A. Introduction:
1. This is a one-term course that takes place in the Math Learning Center (MLC) in building 3, room 277. While there are firm deadlines throughout the term (see MODULE DEADLINES), the individualized format allows for total flexibility in your daily schedule. You may attend the MLC during any of the hours of normal operation, which are posted on the front window, on the web site, and on the bookmark you receive during orientation. It is recommended that you attend the MLC at least 4 hours per week, but you are not limited to those hours, as you may need to attend more often. It is not unusual for successful students to spend between 10 and 15 (or more) hours per week in the MLC.

2. The course is divided into four modules and each module contains several sections. You receive a study guide for each module indicating the pages to study, assignments, and tests.

3. You are responsible for a reading and homework assignment for each section covered. You may come to the MLC at any time to ask questions over your reading and homework assignments. There is an instructor or lab assistant available during all MLC hours. You may do as much work outside of the MLC as you wish.

4. You are responsible for completing work in a timely fashion as described by the module Deadlines. Failure to meet the module deadlines will result in a failing grade in this course. If you are concerned about meeting a deadline, you should see your instructor immediately. If you are industrious, you might complete the course early.

B. Assignments:
1. Homework assignments are listed in the Module Study Guides. Your assignment each day is to read the assigned pages in the textbook, then using paper and pencil, work through the assigned homework problems at the end of each section. Check your answers using “Solutions to Odd-Numbered Exercises” in the back of the book.

Rework any problems that you missed and discuss any difficulties with an instructor or qualified lab
assistant. Continue with the next assignment after all corrections are made and all questions are answered. When your assignment is completed, turn it in to a staff member at the counter to have it recorded. Assignments must be completed in order, and no homework is accepted for a module until the previous module is completed.

2. After completing all the homework assignments for a module, pick up a Review assignment for that module. Review assignments are checked by one of the qualified staff behind the counter in the MLC. If you miss any problems on the review go back to the text and review the section containing that type of problem, then rework that problem. Bring the corrections, along with the original review paper, and have the review checked again.

Continue this process until all problems are correct. If, after several attempts, you are still unable to get the correct answer on a problem, you may discuss your difficulties with an instructor but do not ask lab assistants for help on the review. Credit for the review is earned only when you get all the problems correct. To receive credit for the module review, all homework for that module must be completed and your review must be completed and corrected on or before the review deadline.

C. Tests:

1. There is a test for each module. Each module test must be taken on or before the test deadline. If you miss a deadline you are not allowed to continue in the course and you must see your instructor immediately.

   If you complete a test and are not satisfied with the score you may retake it one time. Each retest must be completed before taking the next module exam.

   You are not allowed to take a test and the retake on the same day, so try to take the module tests a few days before the deadline to allow time for a retake, if desired. Your grade is the average of the two test scores.

   You are allowed to make up one missed exam during finals week if you make arrangements with your instructor in advance. Subsequent missed deadlines will result in a test score of zero.

2. A Final Exam is taken after you have completed all of the modules. The final exam must be taken to receive a passing grade in this course. Please see the module deadlines for the current term.

D. Evaluation:

1. Homework Assignments
   Review Assignments 32@ 1 point 32 points
   Application Tests 4@ 100 points 400 points
   Final Exam 1@ 150 points 150 points
   Total 602 points

2. Final grades are determined using the following scale. Percentages are calculated out of the total points possible.

   A  90 - 100%
   B  80 - 89%
   C  70 - 79%
   D  60 - 69%
   F  0-59%

   IF incomplete grades are rarely given, see #3, below
Math 070 – Syllabus

3. Grades of Incomplete (IF) are rare, and given at your instructor’s discretion. Below is a list of some criteria that are considered:
   • you are missing one key element of coursework, eg. all work is complete except the final exam
   • all modules were completed on or before the due dates throughout the term
   • you must be passing the course at a 70% level or above
   • you are spending enough time in class to show significant effort toward course completion
   • you have special accommodations through the disability services office

E. Academic Honesty:
   If a student is caught cheating, the first offense will result in a score of zero on the test with no retake possible and the incident will be reported to the dean of students. A second offense will result in a failure grade (F) in the course and the incident will be reported to the dean of students.

Learner Outcomes: Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. Create mathematical models of abstract and real world situations using linear equations, linear systems, linear inequalities, quadratic equations and square root equations.
2. Use inductive reasoning to develop mathematical conjectures involving linear equations, linear systems, linear inequalities, quadratic equations and square root equations. Use deductive reasoning to verify and apply mathematical arguments involving these algebraic concepts. Be able to distinguish between the concepts of inductive and deductive reasoning.
3. Use mathematical problem solving techniques involving linear equations, linear systems, linear inequalities, quadratic equations and square root equations. Techniques include the use of tabular, graphical, symbolic and narrative representations.
4. Make mathematical connections to, and solve problems from, other disciplines involving Linear equations, linear systems, linear inequalities, quadratic equations and square root equations.
5. Use oral and written skills to communicate about linear equations, linear systems, linear inequalities, quadratic equations and square root equations.
6. Use appropriate technology to enhance mathematical thinking and understanding, to solve mathematical problems involving linear equations, linear systems, linear inequalities, quadratic equations and square root equations, and judge the reasonableness of results.

Disability: If you have a documented disability that may impact your ability to succeed in this course, please contact Disability Services at 503-399-5192 (voice/TTY) or visit them in Building 2, room 109 on the Salem campus. They can help assess your educational needs and provide you with an action plan that includes recommendations on how we can best support you.

Diversity: We are enriched by the diversity of our students, staff, and community. We welcome diverse perspectives and encourage the free exchange of ideas. Chemeketa Community College provides an environment that celebrates the freedom to learn and the freedom to teach. In that celebration of teaching and learning it is appropriate that individuals and groups be viewed with regard to their potential to contribute within the learning environment. Each has dignity and value.