

Course Outline

Prof. Abe Mirza

Course: Math D (Intermediate Algebra)

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Course Prerequisite: Mathematics A with a grade of "C" or better,

Text Book: Text Book (Required): Intermediate Algebra, by **Blitzer** (11th edition).

Class website: <http://faculty.sierracollege.edu/amirza/mathD/>

YOU NEED TO GO TO MY WEBSITE,

- 1) TO PRINT COURSE MATERIALS**
- 2) CHECK THE ANNOUNCEMENT** (on a **daily bases**) **AND YOUR CLASS REPORT ON REGULAR BASIS.**
- 3) BE SURE YOU REFRESH THE WEBSITE PAGES (BY USING F5 KEY) EACH TIME YOU GO TO MY WEBSITE**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Exponents, radicals, complex numbers, factoring, linear and quadratic equations and inequalities; linear, quadratic, exponential and logarithmic functions; graphing, and systems of equations.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES

Through homework assignments, quizzes, exams, projects and classroom discussions, the student will:

Simplify expressions and solve equations of the following types: linear, quadratic (including some with complex solutions), rational, radical, absolute value, exponential and logarithmic

Interpret and construct graphs of linear, quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic functions and their inverse functions.

Translate, model, and solve applied problems using linear, quadratic, rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions.

Logically present clear, complete, accurate, and sufficiently detailed solutions to communicate reasoning and demonstrate the method of solving problems.

A scientific calculator may be used in class and on some quizzes and tests. **Use of a graphing calculator or cell phone is NOT allowed** on quizzes or tests. A straight edge and graph paper is required. Math should never be done in ink; use pencil for homework and all assessments.

Required Material: Please bring your textbook to class each meeting. A scientific calculator and be sure you have its manual and know how to use it. Regular Graph Paper. Scantron 882E (20 sheets) and 815E (25 sheets)

Attendance Requirements: I expect each student to be fully prepared to participate in each class session. It has been shown to benefit you. This is a college. You are here voluntarily. **IF YOU WILL BE ABSENT MORE TWO SESSIONS, YOU MAY BE DROPPED FROM THE CLASS WITHOUT ANY NOTICE. COMING LATE OR LEAVING EARLY WILL BE CONSIDERED AS A HALF ABSENCE.**



It is your responsibility to follow the proper procedures, in a timely manner, if you decide to withdraw. Acquaint yourself with the dates for withdrawing and any associated financial requirements as detailed in the school catalog. The instructor may drop students for not attending class. Such drop is purely within the discretion of the instructor, if you decide not to continue at any time, you must officially withdraw, do not count on, nor ask the instructor, to drop you. At the end of the semester, the instructor MUST issue a grade to all students listed on the final roster.

An “**excuse**” is an official document from either your physician or the school Health Center attesting to your inability to attend class on the meeting date(s) in question.

Homework: Homework are posted on class website. They are chapter homework and each one weighs 20 points. Doing and understanding the HW problems will be very beneficial in doing well on the tests.. **NO LATE HW WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Quizzes: Occasional quizzes will be given throughout the term. Each quiz will be worth 10 points. Quizzes are open notes and open book. Some of these may be done in small groups. Quizzes will be base on the homework and **may be not be made-up.**

Tests: There will be some chapter tests and a final examination. Each test is worth 100 points. **There will not be a make-up for any test,** so if by any unexcused reason you miss one test, you will be receiving a score of zero for it.

The tentative grade distribution. The actual numbers of test may vary. Your grade will be determined as follows:

Quizzes	= 220 points	or maybe more
Homework (10x20)	= 180 points	The lowest HW score will be dropped.
Tests (7x100)	= 700 points	
Final Exam	= 100 points	

Total Points	= 1200 points	or maybe more

Grading Policy:

At the end of the semester, points from quizzes, tests, and the final will be totaled and grading will be based on the percentage of points you have accumulated as follows:

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



Cheating

The submission of work, which is not the product of a student’s personal effort, will not be tolerated. This includes copying off another person's paper during exams and quizzes; copying another person's projects; or copying from a solution manual. Students caught cheating will be given a failing grade. See Sierra College Board Policy No. 5515 (Honesty in Academic Work) in the student handbook.

HOW TO SUCCEED (ADAPTED FROM THE 7 HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEENS ,SEAN COVEY)

Form the following habits:

1. Be Proactive . Take initiative & responsibility for your education. Ask questions.
2. Begin with the End in Mind. Define your mission and goals. Make good choices Be organized. Final Exam is cumulative and given last day of classes.
3. Put First Things First. Prioritize and do the most important things first.
4. Think Win -Win. Have an “everyone – can – win” attitude. Respect others in class.
5. Seek First to Understand. Understand material don't just memorize it.
6. Collaborate. Work together to achieve more.
7. Sharpen the Saw. Review material frequently - especially before exams.

Math Anxiety

If you feel you have math anxiety you may find the following links helpful. They contain information to help overcome these challenges. My advice is to develop a positive attitude toward math; try to study with a classmate or form a study group; study soon after class –don't put off homework until the last minute; make sure you have enough time for this class (about 8 hours outside of class each week); sit near the front of class; be an active learner; and above all ask questions when they arise.

<http://wc.pima.edu/~carem/MTHANXY.html>

<http://www.mathacademy.com/pr/minitext/anxiety/index.asp>

<http://www.mathanxiety.net>

Study Group

I strongly encourage you to form study groups in class. Working with others in class is the best way to master the material. You benefit if you are receiving help or if you are helping others understand the material