Mathematics 52 Syllabus
Elementary Algebra
Riverside Community College District
Moreno Valley College
Fall 2016

Instructor Information

Instructor: **Mohammed K A Kaabar**
Website: http://www.mohammed-kaabar.net
Office: Student Academic Services (SAS)
Office Hours: Wednesday (10:00 AM – 12:00 PM) or by appointment.
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Course Information

Class Number: 27501
Prerequisite: MAT-64, 65, 90F or Qualifying Placement Level.
Lecture Sessions: Tuesday 8:00 AM – 10:05 AM (Room: PSC 18)
Thursday 8:00 AM – 10:05 AM (Room: PSC 18)
MAT-52 Class Website: http://www.mohammed-kaabar.net/#!elementary-algebra/c1m1g

Course Description: This course is an introduction to the concepts of algebra that examines real numbers and variables as they are involved in polynomials, fractions, linear equations, quadratic equations, systems of equations, inequalities, exponential and radical expressions, and absolute value. Factoring, graphing, and word problem applications will also be included. This class is a non-degree credit course (Letter grade, or Pass/No Pass option) that consists of 72 hours lecture.

Textbook: Introductory Algebra, Twelfth Edition, M. Bittinger, J. Beecher, & B. Johnson, 2014.

Supplemental Materials: I will be posting lecture notes and handouts in PDF files on my webpage after each lecture session. There are also some other textbooks that can be used as resources for our class:

- Bittinger. Introductory Algebra. 11th ed. Addison-Wesley, 2011.
- Sullivan. Elementary Algebra. 2nd ed. Prentice Hall, Inc., 2010.
- Tussy & Gustafson. Elementary Algebra. 4th ed. Brooks Cole, 2008.

Course Content will include:

- Real number operations
- Linear equations and inequalities in one variable with applications
- Exponents and polynomials
- Factorization of polynomials
- Graphs of linear equations and applications

- Radical expressions
- Systems of equations and applications
- Rational expressions and equations

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

- Perform arithmetic operations on real numbers and polynomial, rational, and radical expressions.
- Evaluate algebraic expressions.
- Solve equations involving linear, quadratic, rational, and radical expressions.
- Graph linear equations and inequalities given the equation and find the equation given the graph.
- Factor polynomials.
- Apply algebraic principles and techniques to the solution of applications (analyzing and solving complex problems across a range of academic and everyday contexts).
- Use the symbols and vocabulary of algebra to communicate mathematical concepts (solving problems and communicating the mathematical results).

Grading:

- Written Assignments (The lowest two scores will be dropped): 15%
- Quizzes (The lowest two scores will be dropped): 15%
- Class Participation and Attendance: 10%
- Midterm 1: 15% on Tuesday October 4th, 2016 during class time.
- Midterm 2: 15% on Tuesday November 15th, 2016 during class time.
- Final Exam: 30% on Thursday December 15th, 2016 from 8:00 AM to 10:30 AM.

Written Assignments: Assignments must be submitted in the lecture. Please make sure your homework is well organized and legible. I advise you to use a pencil instead of a pen so you can erase your mistakes. If you choose to use a pen, please cross out your mistakes completely or start over. All written assignments must be stapled together. **While I encourage you to work with other people, you should write down your own solution rather than copying someone else's work**. Make sure you include your name, student ID number, MAT-52 Course ID (27501), and homework assignment number. **Note:** the lowest 2 scores in written assignments will be dropped if all were completed.

Quizzes: Every week or every other week, there will be a quiz during the last 20 minutes of Thursday lecture session except on the first week of the semester and on exam weeks. I will go over what may be in a quiz on Tuesday before quiz day on Thursday. Quizzes may be open book/notes or close book/notes. Details will be announced on Tuesday session as well. There will be no make- up quizzes unless you got permission from me in advance in which case you will need to come during my office hours to take a quiz within a week.

Handouts: Every week or every other week, there will be a handout during the last 30 minutes of Tuesday lecture session. The weekly handout will be a good practice of the class materials. In each handout, you will work in small groups to solve some mathematical problems, and from

each group there will be one volunteer to present the group solution of (one problem) or (one part of problem) on our class board. **Note: handouts will not be graded but if you study them, you will do well in exams, quizzes and written assignments.** I will give extra credits on written assignments if I assign for you some questions from one of the class handouts.

Study Guides: There will be three study guides throughout the semester. Each study guide will contain a set of practice problems for exams. I will post them online on my webpage one week before the actual exam day, and I highly encourage you to study them and prepare some questions to ask me in the review sessions or during my office hours. I will go over the questions in study guides during our review sessions.

Extra Credit: Throughout the semester you will be given opportunities to earn extra points. I highly encourage class participation including board work and group presentations for class activities. I take into my consideration the class participation and attendance when I curve the class at the end of the semester. **Examples of extra credit are in-class handout and take-home quiz.**

Student Resources: Successful students make use of available resources such as the mathematics lab and review sessions. The Math Lab is located at Humanities 220. Any MVC student who is enrolled in any math course at MVC can use the mathematics lab to work on the math assignments or to get help from one of the available math tutors. The mathematics lab is open Monday-Thursday from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM, and Friday from 9:00AM to 3:00 PM. Keep in mind that your classmates can be very helpful. If you need my help and you can't come during my office hours, feel free to send me an email to set up an appointment. For more information about the mathematics lab, please visit (http://www.mvc.edu/academicdepts/math/mathLab.cfm).

Academic Integrity is a cornerstone of the college. Any student who attempts to gain unfair advantage over other students by cheating will fail the assignment, quiz, midterm, or final exam and be reported to the office of the Academic Affairs.

Students with Disabilities: Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability. If you have a disability and may need accommodations to fully participate in this class, please visit the Disability Support Services (DSS) office. All accommodations must be approved through the Disability Support Services (DSS) office. Please stop by or call (951) 571-6138 to make an appointment with an Disability Support Services (DSS) Advisor. You may also email the office (dss@mvc.edu or dsscounseling@mvc.edu) to make an appointment with them.

MVC Safety Measures: Moreno Valley College is committed to maintaining a safe environment for its faculty, staff, students, and visitors. I highly recommend you to visit http://www.mvc.edu/admindepts/csp/index.cfm to read about college safety and police at MVC.

Expectations: The following is a list of all my expectations:

- I expect regular attendance and active participation in my class.

- **<u>Calculators will not be allowed for any midterm or final exam</u>**. Therefore, I recommend you to not use a calculator for homework problems so you can practice on calculating numbers without a calculator in exams.
- Cheating or plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. If you cheat/plagiarize, you will receive a zero credit for that particular homework, quiz, midterm, or final exam. Lastly, if you have any question or need help, please feel free to ask me. I'm here to help you so that you can succeed in this class.

Note: I reserve the right to add-to or modify the information contained on this syllabus as need arises.