

Welcome to Intermediate Algebra
Spring Quarter, 2008
Olympic College, Bremerton

Course Information:	Math 99 item number 4592 meets 11:00 – 11:50 daily in ST-127
Instructor:	Elizabeth O'Neil (feel free to call me Elizabeth)
Office:	Sci-Tech 112
Office Hours:	10:00 – 10:50 AM Monday through Friday or any time my door is open
Phone:	(360) 475-7774
E-mail:	oneil@oc.ctc.edu (this is the best way to reach me)
Web site:	http://instructors.olympic.edu/ElizabethONEil/

Course Description

Second course in the sequence of Elementary Algebra, Intermediate Algebra, and College Algebra. Topics include: graphing linear equations, quadratic equations and conic sections; systems of equations; rational expressions; radical expressions and rational exponents; logarithmic and exponential functions. A scientific calculator is required. (Note that this is NOT a GRAPHING calculator)

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of MATH 99, students will be able to:

- Graph equations of lines, and use such graphs and equations to model relationships involving constant rates of change.
- Solve systems of linear equations, and a variety of non-linear equations.
- Identify quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic equations, functions and graphs.
- Develop linear, linear system, and quadratic models to describe real world situations.
- Identify the equations of conic sections and use the significant features of these equations to sketch the corresponding graphs.
- Use a scientific calculator as tool in computations and problem solving.
- Interpret and solve problems graphically, numerically, symbolically, and in writing.
- Communicate clearly and effectively in the symbolic language of mathematics.
- Apply systematic procedures to simplify and evaluate rational and radical expressions
- Simplify expressions involving rational exponents using the rules of exponents and radicals.

Prerequisite

In order to enroll in this course, you must meet one of the following requirements.

- Complete Math 94 at Olympic College with a grade of 2.0 or higher.
- Earn the appropriate score on a placement test taken at Olympic College. (Regardless of your placement test score, once you begin the OC math sequence, you must pass each course before proceeding to the next.)

If you do not meet either of these requirements, you will be dropped from the class. Please see me if you are unsure about whether you meet the prerequisite.

Text

The required textbook for this course is Elementary and Intermediate Algebra for College Students, 3rd edition by Allen R. Angel.

Grading

Your score will be calculated as follows:

Chapter Exams (4)	100 points each (400 total)
Comprehensive Final Exam	200 points
Homework (30 assignments)	2 points each section (60 points possible)
<u>Quizzes (5)</u>	<u>20 points each (100 total)</u>
Total	760 points

Your percent score will be calculated out of the total of 650 possible points. You need 93% for a 4.0, 83% for a 3.0, 73% for a 2.0 and 63% for a 1.0. Each 1% change will raise (or lower) your grade by 0.1. The only exception is that any score below 60% is a grade of 0.0.

Grades of WP, WF and I are awarded in special circumstances only. Requests for such grades must be made to me in-person before the day of the final exam. If a student “disappears” before earning enough points for a 1.0, s/he will receive a grade of 0.0.

Examinations

There will be four chapter exams and one comprehensive final exam to be held on the dates shown in the calendar.

No make-up exams are allowed except in extraordinary circumstances. If you know in advance that you must miss an exam and absolutely cannot change your plans, you may be allowed to take the exam early. Occasionally, an unavoidable and unpredictable situation prevents a student from taking an exam in-class. If this occurs, you must contact me via telephone or e-mail as soon as humanly possible, i.e., that same day. If you do not contact me as soon as possible, you will not be allowed to make up the exam. I may ask for verification of your reason for missing the exam, such as a doctor’s note.

Homework

Homework is collected daily. You may hand in your papers late; until the day of the final exam, but a maximum of three homework sections and three in-class exercises, roughly one week’s worth of materials, will accepted each day. Please place your work in the “ungraded work” folder and retrieve any graded materials from the “graded work” folder. Each item is worth two points, graded on completeness only. If you have all of your homework turned in by each “regular” exam day, you will receive five extra credit points on that exam!

Tips for Math Success

Math can be a difficult subject to learn, but it is very rewarding when you understand something new. It is even fun! Following are some pointers for learning math.

- Do the homework for each section the day it is covered in class, not the night before it is due - then you can ask about difficult problems before you need to hand them in.
- Use the FREE TUTORING at the Math Study Center!
9:00 AM to 7:00 PM Monday through Thursday and 9:00 AM to 2:00 Friday PM in Sci-Tech 126.
- Don't give up.
- Try a problem in several ways before you ask for help.
- Find 2-3 Math Buddies with whom you can work on difficult problems outside of class.
- If you are confused in class, please let me know right away - you'll be helping the students who have the same question but are afraid to ask.
- Set aside AT LEAST 2-3 hours every day to work on math.
- Read the textbook.

Classroom Conduct

Please do the following:

- **Turn off your cell phones and beepers before entering the classroom.**
- Arrive on-time with your homework neatly completed, ready to discuss the next topic.
- Participate in class discussions and activities.
- Show respect for yourself, for your classmates and for me.
- Do not pack up your belongings until class is over.
- Come to my office, if only to say hello.
- Work hard to succeed in this class.

Additional Notes

- If you have a documented disability and need any accommodation(s), please contact Access Services at (360) 475-7540.
- If there is any way that I can help you to learn better, please let me know!
- All schedules and procedures are subject to change at the instructor's discretion based on the needs of the class.
- **In case of inclement weather**, please check the OC web site, <http://www.olympic.edu/>, or call the main campus at 360-792-6050 or 1-800-259-6718.