

Math 108 – Intermediate Algebra Fall 2008 - Syllabus

Instructor: Jean Sawyer
Class Time and Place: M, T, W, Th, 7:30-8:30 am, MLH B32
Office: MLH B2
Office Hrs: M, T, W, Th, 9 to 10am, or by appointment
Phone: 792-2797
Email: jasawyer@lcsc.edu
Text: Intermediate Algebra, Bracken and Miller

Pre-requisites:

A Grade of "C" or better in MATH 024 or MATH 025 **or**
Satisfactory placement score: Math ACT score ≥ 19 **or**
Quantitative SAT score ≥ 440 **or**
COMPASS Algebra score of 41 – 61

Course Description:

Intermediate algebra builds on the fundamental concepts introduced in elementary algebra. This course emphasizes the concepts of function, domain, range, and zeros and includes the study of linear, absolute value, quadratic, logarithmic, exponential, radical, and rational functions, expressions and equations. Other topics include complex numbers, composition of functions, inverses of functions, properties of logarithms, exponent rules, systems of equations, and Gauss Jordan elimination using matrices. A graphing calculator is used extensively. 4 credits

Goals:

1. To attain a **comprehensive and functional understanding of course material** in preparation for Math 143, 144, 147, 157. This course does **NOT** meet the math skills requirement of the general education core curriculum. This course is **NOT** a review or preparation for Finite Math 130 or 137.
2. To **learn study skills and techniques** and to **develop effective, productive study habits** that will contribute to success in this and future math classes
3. To **reduce anxieties and apprehensions** associated with math

Students are expected to:

1. show **respect for and consideration of all others** in order to establish a positive and comfortable learning environment for all; no social conversations during class; no cell phones please
2. function at a high level of **personal integrity** – any form of **academic dishonesty will not be tolerated** (Student Handbook <http://www.lcsc.edu/OSL/SHB/SHBcodeofconduct.htm>)

Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to: copying someone else's work, allowing someone to copy your work, sharing information about a test with a student who has not yet taken the test, submitting homework assignments with answers from the back of the text without actually doing the work, using a calculator when one is not permitted

3. **regularly attend and participate** in class - attendance and participation positively impact success in the class
4. read their **LC email** regularly - this is the designated LCSC means of communication with students
5. make a **conscientious and sincere effort** to accomplish the above goals - expect to spend at least 2 hours outside of class for each hour in class, when necessary, seek help from the instructor and/or use other campus resources (Math and Science Tutor Center, MLH 115)

Calculator:

A scientific calculator such as a TI-30XA (*not* a graphing calculator) is required at every class and cannot be shared. A **Voyage 200 calculator will be signed out to you** after the first test. The student assumes full responsibility for this Voyage 200; the student may be billed for replacement or repair in case of loss or damage. If the calculator is not returned at the final exam (or if the class is dropped), transcripts will not be released and

future registration for LCSC classes will be blocked until the Voyage 200 is returned or the full amount for replacement is made.

Grading:

Homework	20%
Class Activities/Participation	10%
Tests	50%
Final Exam	20%
Mastery Skill Quizzes	

Homework will be collected at the beginning of each class period. **No late homework** assignments will be accepted. At the end of the semester, the three lowest homework grades will be dropped.

Each assignment will be worth 25 points:

- 10 points total (2 points each) for 5 selected problems that will be graded
- 10 points for completion of the entire assignment – you **must show all the work** to justify your answer
- 5 points for “presentation” – readability, neatness, following the model of problems done in class

No Extra Credit assignments will be given.

Class Activities – You must be present in class to participate. No make-ups will be allowed.

Tests – Make-up exams will be allowed only in rare cases due to exceptional circumstances. Oversleeping and mild illnesses are not acceptable excuses. Contact me by phone or email no later than the day of the exam.

Final Exam is a required common, comprehensive exam: **Monday, December 15, 7:30 -9:30 am**

Mastery Skill Quizzes – **ALL skill quizzes must be passed with a score of 100% to pass the course.** No exceptions. Quizzes will be given during the last 10 minutes of class. You may retake a quiz until you receive a perfect score. Retakes are given at the end of a later class (not the same day that the quiz is returned) or during office hours. All Mastery Skill Quizzes must be complete by Friday, December 12. **TO PASS THIS CLASS, every skill quiz must be passed. If you have even one skill quiz that is not successfully completed by this time, you will fail this class.**

Grading Scale:

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D	F
100-93	92-90	89-87	86-83	82-80	79-77	76-70	69-60	< 60

Incompletes will only be given under the following conditions: (1) 80% of all coursework is completed. (2) You must be passing with a 70% or better. (3) You must provide written documentation of a medical or family emergency.

Access and Accommodation:

If you require any special course adaptations or accommodations due to a disability, please make me aware of those immediately, no later than before the first scheduled exam. Please let me know of any emergency medical information or special arrangements that may be necessary in the event that the building must be quickly evacuated. For testing accommodations or other unique or uncommon accommodations or services please contact the Office of Student Life, Room 111, Reid Centennial Hall, 792-2211. (Disability Services <http://www.lcsc.edu/osl/ada.htm>)

Extraordinary Circumstances:

If any extraordinary life circumstances prevent you from meeting any of the above course requirements, please let me know. Special arrangements can be made in **extraordinary** cases.