CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS  
MATH 934, Section 2, Elementary & Intermediate Algebra

SEMESTER/YEAR: Spring 2016

LECTURE HOURS: 5  CREDIT HOURS: 5

CLASS TIME: 11:00-11:50 AM   DAYS: MTWTHF   ROOM: PS 119

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Diane Ginsbach

INSTRUCTOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION: OFFICE PHONE: 268-2866   EMAIL: ginsbach@caspercollege.edu
Academic Assistant: 268-2513   OFFICE #: PS 128

OFFICE HOURS:  
Monday 9 - 9:50 AM
Tuesday 9 - 10:50 AM
Wednesday 9 - 9:50 AM
Thursday 9 - 9:50 AM
or by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The study of integer exponents and their properties; linear equations and inequalities: to solve and to graph; also includes the study of function notation and system of equations; and the study of the four basic operations of polynomials and factoring of polynomials; also includes the study of rational expressions; the operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of same; also includes the study of solutions and properties of rational, quadratic, exponential and logarithmic equations; in addition, students will study applications of same. This class is an ACCELERATED course that combines MATH 0920 and MATH 0930 content in one semester and is designed for the student who needs a review of these topics.

PREREQUISITE: Prerequisites: ACT Math score of 19-20; or a COMPASS placement score in the Algebra domain of 28-39, within the past year; or a "C" or better in MATH 0900. A 'C' or better in this class allows the student to take MATH 1100 or MATH 1400 within the next academic year.

GOAL: For each student to have personal responsibility for attending and participating in class, completing homework, asking questions, passing tests, and succeeding in this class.

OUTCOMES:
1. Solve problems using critical thinking and creativity.
2. Use appropriate technology and information to conduct research.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Students should:
1. Be able to simplify integer exponent expressions.
2. Be able to solve linear equations and inequalities, and set up and solve applications involving both.
3. Be able to graph linear equations and write equations of lines, and use function notation.
4. Be able to solve a system of linear equations with two variables.
5. Be able to add, subtract, multiply, and divide polynomials.
6. Be able to factor polynomials.
7. Be able to simplify, add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational expressions and solve rational equations and applications.
8. Be able to simplify rational exponent expressions and solve radical equations.
9. Be able to solve quadratic equations and applications, and graph quadratic functions.
10. Be able to use function notation and find inverse functions.
11. Be able to convert between exponential and logarithmic notation.
METHODOLOGY: I plan to teach this class with short lectures followed by examples and then interspersed with student/team activities. Please feel free to ask questions at any time.

EVALUATION CRITERIA: Homework is assigned every class period in MyMathLab (online). These assignments will be worth 10 points per chapter(s). Always make sure and get your questions answered. There could be announced and/or unannounced and/or take-home quizzes throughout the semester. There will be correction assignments for each test. Each quiz and assignment will be worth 10 points. I will drop two to three 10 point assignments depending upon the total number for the semester. The remaining 10 points assignments will be added to your cumulative point total. Additionally, there might be some other assignments for points during the semester.

At the most there will be a test over each chapter with some chapters combined (maximum of 10 chapter tests). They will be worth approximately 100 points each. There will be a comprehensive final exam (Tuesday, May 10th, 10:10 AM - 12:10 PM) worth at most 150 points. Grades are determined by the total points earned divided by the total points for the semester (90%+ A, 80-89% B, 70-79% C, 60-69% D, 59% and below F). Keep track of your points throughout the semester so you will always know your grade. Please let me know ahead of time if you are unable to make it to class for an exam. These need to be made up before the test date. See the attached sheet.

Casper College may collect samples of student work demonstrating achievement of the above outcomes. Any personally identifying information will be removed from student work.

REQUIRED TEXTS, READINGS, MATERIALS: MyMathLab code (Course ID: ginsbach28512) and graphing calculator (preferably a TI-83 or TI-83+ or TI-84) is required. Optional book - ALGEBRA FOUNDATIONS 1st edition, by Martin-Gay, (isbn: 978-0-321-97865-3). Calculators can be leased from the Math Learning Center.

LAST DATE TO CHANGE TO AUDIT STATUS OR TO WITHDRAW WITH A "W" GRADE: Thursday, April 14, 2016.

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

Chain of Command: If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Academic Dishonesty: (Cheating & Plagiarism) Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

Official Means of Communication: Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly. This is also, where you will find course evaluation links during course evaluation periods.

ADA Accommodations Policy: If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college’s Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE WITH COURSE CONTENT: We will cover most parts of Chapters 9 through 19. We will cover approximately one section each class period and homework will be assigned after each section.

My best suggestions for succeeding in this class are:

  Attend class! ~ Complete the homework!! ~ Get your questions answered!!!

Remember the best ability anyone can have is respons“ability”! 🙂