

MATH 0096-91 – Topics in Intermediate Algebra Updated 08/05/09

Contact Information: Nancy Lange Office: LI 239 (2nd floor Library)
Phone: (651) 450-8395 E-mail: nlange@inverhills.edu
Faculty website: <http://faculty.inverhills.edu/nlange>
Office hours: To be announced in class and posted on my faculty website

MyMathLab course ID: lange93811

Communication with the instructor is done via phone and e-mail or during office hours.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Math 93 or 94 with a grade of C or better OR recommendation from IHCC assessment exam.

For whom intended: This course is designed for college students who need to learn or review intermediate algebra topics in preparation for Math 1101 (Math for Liberal Arts) or Math 1103 (Statistics). This course **does not** fulfill the Intermediate Algebra prerequisite for Math 1105, Math 1106, Math 1118 or Math 1127. Students planning to take Math for Elementary Education, College Algebra, or Precalculus should enroll in Math 0099, Intermediate Algebra. This course does not satisfy any graduation distribution requirements.

Course outcomes and topics: Students will be able to solve equations and inequalities, simplify algebraic expressions, graph equations, and solve applications for the following topics: 1) Compound inequalities, 2) Functions: Linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, radical, exponential and logarithmic (includes notation, basic graphing; domain, and range), 3) Systems of linear equations (including matrix solutions), 4) Linear inequalities in two variables, 5) Radicals with emphasis on connection with rational exponents and minimal work with basic operations and simplification, 6) Quadratic equations, and 7) Summation notation, sequences and series.

Classroom Procedures: Students are required to view at least some lecture videos for additional instruction via accompanying DVDs, do the assigned text homework OR online homework, do supplemental homework sets, and do computer quizzes. Online test reviews are optional but earn bonus points. For most classes the first 2 hours of class time are used to provide instruction, do group work, do practice problems, and sometimes take in-class quizzes. The last hour of class is used to answer questions and to practice in small groups or get help one-to-one. After the first two weeks, portions of the last hour of class will be optional as announced in class for students who consistently perform at or above 80% on all quizzes and tests. On nights when there is a test, there will also be new instruction during the last hour so all students are required to stay until 8:50 PM.

Text and other materials:

1. Required: A scientific calculator is required for this course such as the TI 30X, 36X, or equivalent (\$12-20). Graphing calculators may be used in this class, but will not be allowed on some quizzes and parts of tests. If you plan to purchase a graphing calculator, speak with an IHCC math instructor so that you get one that will work for other college-level math courses.
2. Required: Textbook package includes *Intermediate Algebra for College Students* (5th Edition) by Robert Blitzer bundled (ISBN 032156586X) with MyMathLab software, DVD lecture series, and a student solutions manual. These bundled items have a special price in the IHCC bookstore usually lower than when purchasing items individually elsewhere, even used. The software must have an unused authorization code. Keep your receipt. (An online text option is given below.)

Optional online text package: Students may opt to use an online text and corresponding resources by purchasing the authorization code (\$70) for MyMathLab at www.coursecompass.com > Students > next > enter course ID and find the course > buy now. From within the program, use the “Chapter Contents” button for the online text and online resources and use the “Multi Media Library” button for the streamed lecture videos.

3. Optional: A 3-ring binder is helpful to organize course notes, homework, quizzes, tests and handouts.

Grades and Evaluation:

Exams (500 pts): There will be three 100-point exams and one 200-point comprehensive final exam. All exams are in class and are closed-book and no notes.

Quizzes & Miscellaneous (up to 150 pts): Quizzes and miscellaneous graded assignments are 10-points each, and the best 75% of these scores will total at most 140 points. Students have 2 attempts to achieve at least 70% on MML quizzes and the best score is kept for the grade. *For full credit on MML quizzes, errors must clearly be marked and corrections attached to your quiz attempts or the score is reduced by 10%.*

Bonus Points (up to 12): There are 3 test reviews @ up to 4 bonus points each. Reviews earn 4 bonus points for scores 90% or higher, 3 bonus points for scores 80-89%, and 2 bonus points for scores 70-79%. Scores below 70% earn no bonus points. Check each answer as it is inserted and make corrections for each error as you work through the review to earn back full credit. Everyone should be able to earn 90% or higher by making all corrections. The test reviews are in the same place as the online homework in MyMathLab. You can do the review over several study sessions. Submit after you have completed all problems.

There are up to 650 points total. Your grade is based on a percentage of the total points: 90% - 100% A; 80% - 89% B; 70% - 79% C; 60% - 69% D; less than 60% NC (no credit).

Grades and Evaluation Notes:

1. Pass/No credit option: Any student wishing to take this class with a Pass/No credit option must complete the necessary forms by the 5th day of the semester. In order to receive a grade of P (pass) the student must have an average of at least 70%.
2. Students must earn at least 70% to qualify for the next math course numbered 1000 or above.

Attendance: It is expected that you will be in attendance at each class meeting, and you are to e-mail or call to inform me about any absence. When absent, check the update on D2L regarding announcements and homework assigned. If a take-home assignment was given, students must download a copy from D2L and turn it in on time. No late take-home graded work will be accepted. In *extenuating circumstances* you may e-mail answers before class time if you are unable to attend class when a take-home assignment is due but turn in the written work upon return to campus.

Homework: Homework assignments from the text OR equivalent online assignments in MML that correspond to each class session's topic(s) are assumed assigned. Unless stated otherwise, completed homework should be attached to the corresponding online or in-class quiz to receive full credit on that quiz. When doing the homework, be sure to review your class notes for examples to ensure that you are using correct procedures. Also, check all homework answers with the answer key at the back of the text (or in the student solution manual) and show corrections for exercises that you got wrong. Get help in the Math Center or from me when you don't understand how to do some of the homework problems. In MML homework and on test reviews, students who find and correct their errors get full credit. Mark these problems wrong on your paper and show your corrections for later reference and study, but don't erase the original error.

Study: I suggest that you keep a three-ring notebook neatly organized containing all homework with corrections, MML quiz work and review work with corrections, tests, class notes, etc. Bring this notebook to class so that you can follow along if you or another student has homework questions, or if I allow open notebooks on in-class quizzes or group assignments. You should plan to spend 6 – 8 hours outside of class per week, reading the textbook, viewing the lecture videos, organizing and reading your notes, completing homework, reviewing and summarizing. It is also recommended that you spend at least 1 hour each day of the week studying math, **INCLUDING THE DAYS WHEN THERE IS NO CLASS**. In D2L > Content > Course Documents please read “homework guidelines” and “online quiz instructions” for more specific instructions.

Make - up work: Lectures will be given only once. If you have an unavoidable absence, it is your responsibility to get notes from a classmate, and do the necessary reading and homework. Take-home quizzes not turned in on time or missed in-class

quizzes cannot be made up. The lowest 25% of quiz & miscellaneous scores will be dropped to allow for unavoidable absences. Always check the D2L class update if you miss a class. Make-up exams will be given only when you have contacted me in advance or on the day of the exam by phone or e-mail with a suggested makeup time prior to the next class and with a valid, documented reason for missing the test. There will be a late penalty imposed on any late test based on the number of days late except in very special circumstances judged so by the instructor. Call, e-mail, or speak to me in person as soon as possible if you must miss a test. A test taken early is not penalized.

General Comments

1. Documented learning disabilities: If there are any requests that you would like to make in order to ensure your accessibility to any part of this course, please see me or Disabled Students Services in the Learning Center, L-224. The DSS phone number is 651/450-8628 (TTY: 651/450-8369).
2. No cell phones or pagers during class: Please turn off cell phones and pagers prior to coming to class and put them away out of sight. Cell phones may not be used as calculators on exams or on in-class quizzes.
3. Withdraw: You may withdraw from the course upon completion of the necessary forms in the student services office, no later than the date shown on the college website in the link “calendar” on the top menu. Failure to formally withdraw by completing the appropriate form will result in a no credit grade (NC) if you have not completed all course work and requirements.

Resources:

1. **Instructor office hours** – See my semester schedule on my faculty website: <http://faculty.inverhills.edu/nlange>
2. **Math Center** –2nd floor of the library, free walk-in tutoring 9-6 Mon-Thurs and 9-1 Friday
3. **Peer Tutoring** –sign up for a math peer tutor on 2nd floor library building, free
4. **Internet Websites** – Go to the math department homepage for recommended links: <http://www.inverhills.edu/departments/mathematics/>. Click on “Internet Resources” on the side menu and then click “Algebra” in the submenu.
5. **MyMathLab** – resources in multimedia library and in chapter contents > tools for success
6. **DVD lecture videos** – use them if you miss a class, to supplement the class lecture, or to replace a lecture when assigned