

Math 114 Syllabus: Spring 2015

MATH 114 Section 21 (01270) room S16 (MW 1:30-3:45)	
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Instructor: Lars Johnson

Office Hours Location: S43 (In the Math Tutorial Center)

Email: johnsonlars@fhda.edu

Office Hours: room S43 Tuesday, 1:00 to 2:00pm

Materials:

- Textbook:

Intermediate Algebra for College Students

Blitzer; Pearson, 2009

*De Anza College 2nd Custom Edition (sold in bookstore to students)

Corresponds to 5th regular edition

- A workbook or binder of paper for note taking, pens/pencils. **This is very important.**
- A scientific calculator.
- A way to organize your portfolio (up to you).
- Some form of internet access.

Description: Application of exponential and logarithmic functions, rational functions, and sequences and series to problems. Emphasis on the development of models of real world applications and interpretation of their characteristics.

Student Learning Outcome Statements (SLO)

- **Student Learning Outcome:** Evaluate real-world situations and distinguish between and apply exponential, logarithmic, rational, and discrete function models appropriately.
- **Student Learning Outcome:** Analyze, interpret, and communicate results of exponential, logarithmic, rational, and discrete models in a logical manner from four points of view - visual, formula, numerical, and written.

The MPS Program -- If you have a hard time with math, or have ever attempted to take this class in the past.

Some students don't realize they can only attempt to take a math class 3 times (withdrawals are also considered an attempt!)

Go To: www.deanza.edu/mps Talk with a counselor immediately at the start of quarter if you need help.

MPS students receive . . .

- Specialized instruction in a supportive and fun learning environment
- Additional tutoring services
- Specialized counseling services

Math Science Tutorial Center (Room S43, same place as the location of my office hours)

I recommend to everybody that they visit the tutorial center (or go to my office hours), especially when you have doubts about math or anything related to problem-solving. At the tutorial center, students can obtain free tutoring help.

<http://deanza.edu/studentsuccess/mstrc>

Location of tutorial center: Location: [S-Quad](#), Building S4, Room [S43](#)

Extra Class Resources

Depending of the desires of the class, we may add other class resources such as: chat functions to talk with instructor when he isn't on campus, online blackboard, or published math meetup locations.

Portfolio

You will create a portfolio that is weighted more than a test, and is a compilation of research and activities that you compile over the quarter. The portfolio is a way to help you control your outcome in this class, express your curiosity, and where you can learn the ideas of this class more deeply. The content and structure of your portfolio will vary per student, but will potentially contain: goal statements about what you want to use math for outside of class, math exercises that you create for yourself to help your own learning, working ahead in the book and doing sections you are interested in, cheat sheets you compile, research on how to use math in a relevant setting for you, extra problems you carefully work out with your tutors or study groups, math meetups you present, other problems you work out from other textbooks, videos and online problems you work through. Don't worry too much about what I want in your portfolio. I just want to see three things:

1. The stuff you put in your portfolio is stuff you really are personally interested in and want to get involved in.
2. We both agree (you and me) that the stuff you are doing for your portfolio is helping with your student learning objectives and Student Learning Outcomes (SLO). As long as it is helping your learning, it is probably good. Be creative, be curious, find ways to learn more.
3. That you can do 15 second "elevator pitches" to keep me up to date on the progress of your portfolio.

Attendance:

- **Students are responsible for knowing and understanding the rules of attendance. ANY violation of these rules is grounds for being dropped from the class.**
- *Regular, punctual attendance at all class meetings is expected of each student.* **YOU CANNOT EXPECT TO DO WELL IN THE CLASS IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND LECTURES.**
- **Quizzes, participation points, and in-class activities cannot be retaken. If you miss a class that has a quiz, activity, or participation score, you get a zero (even if the absence is documented and approved).**

- I do not drop tests, homeworks, quizzes or activities. All class absences must be excused with documentation before then end of the quarter. If you have 3 undocumented/unapproved absences, you will get an F.
- Students absent anytime during the first week of class may be dropped from the class for absenteeism and space will be made for students who wish to add the class.
- A student may be dropped if absent the equivalent of three days of classes during the quarter. However, if a student stops coming to class after starting and wishes to drop, the instructor will not automatically drop the student. Any student wishing to drop **must drop themselves**.
- **Being late to class or leaving before class is dismissed by the instructor will greatly impact any recorded participation score you earn that day (you will get 1 out of 4 points). Texting in class will impact your participation score that day (you will get 2 out of 4 points). If you are unprepared, you will lose 1 point (you get 3 out of 4 points, but you may go to the Math Tutor center and recover the point with a signature from your tutor on problems you worked out, or at my office hours). If you are prepared, doing your homework, and attend class, then your participation grade that day will be 4 out of 4 points.**
- Again, YOU MUST DROP YOURSELF FROM THE CLASS IF YOU DECIDE YOU CAN NOT TAKE THE CLASS. Otherwise, your grade will be F.
- Talking about math with students is easily forgiven during lectures. However, if you distract any students with any non-math class talking, you are considered absent from class with NO EXCUSE (reminder: 3 times and you get an F).
- In certain instances, the instructor or counselor may drop a student for violation of any policy stated in this syllabus.

Homework: Homework is assigned every week. You will learn the most by consistently doing the homework. If you consistently fall behind and do not complete homework assignments or do not show all work, you can be dropped from the course. **DOING HOMEWORK REGULARLY IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS IN THE CLASS. ALL HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS HAVE DUE DATES AFTER WHICH THEY WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** Homework will generally be collected every week at the beginning of class. Homework must be stapled, neat, and show all work. **Homework that does not show all work will be deducted points.** You will have a cover sheet for your homework with a summary list of all your answers. If a student turns in a homework assignment with answers only or fails to turn in homework assignments at all, or the work seems copied, that student may be dropped.

Each assignment is graded **TWICE**. **After you get the homework back from me, you will be given information to check the validity of your work (some answers, or feedback). You will be expected to repair your mistakes and turn your homework in again at the next class period with sheets stapled to the front with corrected problems (following the same format as the original homework). The original homework will be stapled to the back of the corrected version. If anything is wrong the second time, or is left uncorrected, you will lose a lot of points.**

Quizzes: You will have unscheduled quizzes. If you miss a quiz or are late starting a quiz, you will not be given extra time to make it up. Quiz scores are not dropped.

Activities: During class time, you may be given either individual or group problems to do for practice during lecture. These problems are required and your participation is required for this class. Failure to participate in such activities may result in your being dropped from the class.

Exams & Final Exam: Make-up exams are generally not given for **any reason**. If for some reason you take an exam late, **15% of the points obtained will be deducted as a penalty**. TO PASS THE CLASS, YOU MUST TAKE THE FINAL EXAM. No notes will be allowed for tests, quizzes and the final exam unless otherwise stated by the instructor.

Assignments and points are as follows:

- 1 final exam 20%
 - 3 midterms @ 10% each
 - Creative portfolio of independent and **original** math research/problem-solving 15%
 - weekly homework assignments 15% total (each assignment is graded **TWICE**)
 - quizzes/in-class work total (unannounced) 15%
 - class participation total 5% (approximate scheme is as follows => each time: 0=excused, but absent; 1=leave/arrive late; 2=texting/disruption; 3=in class; 4=prepared)
 - Extra Credit: 0 to 10% added as a bonus on top of your score, applied on a CURVE.
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Grades are generally assigned as follows:

A (90 to 100% of points)

B (80 to 89% of points)

C (70 to 79% of points)

D (60 to 69% of points)

F (below 60% of points)