Stony Brook University
Mathematics Department
Julia Viro

Proficiency Algebra
MAP 103
Spring 2016

Syllabus

Course description: The goal of the course is to build an algebraic foundation for precalculus/calculus study. We will learn how to solve linear and quadratic equations, draw graphs of linear and quadratic functions, solve linear systems in two variables, solve linear and quadratic inequalities. We will discuss exponents, polynomials and rational expressions.

Note: This course is not for credit and does not count towards one's cumulative GPA, but the grade does appear on one's transcript, counts towards the semester GPA, and counts towards credit enrollment. It is necessary to pass this course with a grade of C or better to move onto MAT 118, 122, 123 or AMS 101 (you may also enter AMS 101 with a 2+ on the placement exam, but admittance into other courses mentioned requires a 3 or a passing grade in MAP 103). This course does NOT satisfy the DEC C requirement but does satisfy the S1 skills requirement.

Course coordinator: Julia Viro. E-mail: julia@math.sunysb.edu
Office hours: MW 11am-12noon, 3pm-4pm in MLC or by appointment.

Textbooks:

Kaufmann, Schwitters, *Intermediate Algebra*, tenth edition, Cengage Learning.
Higgins, Tang, Viro, *Proficiency Algebra in Problems*, free online.

WebAssign is the course online platform. Weekly assignments will be given through WebAssign.

You have to buy an access code to WebAssign. If you do this directly from www.webassign.net, the price will be $75, it includes WebAssign access for one semester and eBook of Intermediate Algebra. You may also order a hard copy of the textbook.

Alternatively, you may buy access code/textbook in the bookstore. Compare the prices from different sources before the purchase!

Blackboard is the main resource to get the information about course materials, assignments, grades, announcements, contacts. Check it regularly.

Homework will be assigned weekly/biweekly through Blackboard and collected in class. HW will contain problems requiring handwritten complete solutions. Late homework will not be accepted.

Quizzes may be given weekly without prior notice. Don't miss your classes!

Exams: Midterm 1 is on Monday, February 22nd at 8:45pm-10:15pm.
Midterm 2 is on Thursday, April 7th at 8:45pm-10:15pm.
Final is on Wednesday, May 11th at 8:00am-10:45am.

Exams are an important part of the course. If you miss an exam without a legitimate reason, you will automatically fail the course. Please make sure that you can take all the exams!

Grading system: Your grade for the course will be based on the exams results, assignments from WebAssign, homework and quizzes. Each exam will consist of two parts: part I and part II. Part I includes basic problems which you have to solve completely and correctly. Part II includes more advanced problems.

In order to get C as a letter grade, you have to meet the **minimal requirements**, namely, complete at least 75% of WebAssigns, do at least 60% of the homework correctly and fulfill the requirements of part I on **all** exams, that is to solve **all** the problems from part I completely and correctly.

In order to get a grade higher than C, you have to meet the **minimal requirements** (do at least 75% of WebAssigns, do at least 60% of the homework correctly, do correctly part I on **all** exams) and get some positive score in part II.

You course grade will be calculated based on your scores for Part II of the exams: Midterm 1 (30%), Midterm 2 (30%), Final (40%).

Make-up policy: You can make up incorrectly solved problems from part I of the exams during the office hours of your instructor. Make-ups for Midterm 1 should be completed prior to Midterm 2, and all make-ups for Midterm 2 should be completed prior to the Final Exam. No make-ups are allowed for homework, quizzes and part II of the exams. No make-ups are allowed if you miss an exam without serious and **documented** reason. (A doctor note stating that you have visited the doctor's office for whatever reason will **not** be accepted as an excuse for not taking an exam.)

Calculators will not be permitted on the exams. We will concentrate on conceptual aspects of the material rather than computational ones.

Math Learning Center (MLC) is a place where you can get free tutoring help with any of your math concerns. No appointment is required, just come in and ask for help. MLC is located in the basement of Math building, room S-240A. Website is www.math.sunysb.edu/MLC/index.html

Disability support services (DSS) statement: If you have a physical, psychological, medical, or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Disability Support Services (631) 6326748 or http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/dss/. They will determine with you what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential. Students who require assistance during emergency evacuation are encouraged to discuss their needs with their professors and Disability Support Services. For procedures and information go to the following website: www.stonybrook.edu/ehs/fire/disabilities/asp.

Academic integrity statement: Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty are required to report any suspected instance of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at www.stonybrook.edu/uaa/academicjudiciary

Critical incident management: Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Judicial Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, and/or inhibits students' ability to learn.