

Fundamentals of Algebra Math 090-C01 Summer 2009
TR 10:50-12:30 COB 324 2 Credits

Instructor: Robyn MacIvor

Email: ms.macivor@gmail.com

Text: *Forgotten Algebra*, 3rd edition, Bleau

Office hours: ENG 279 by appointment

MLC hours: Wednesdays 1:30-5:00 pm, Fridays 1:00-5:00 pm

Website: Homework assignments, handouts, and other information can be found at my website, which can be found by clicking on my link on the Math Department webpage or by going directly to <http://web.me.com/robynette61>.

Course Description: A **review** of basic algebra and arithmetic, including algebra of polynomials, factorization of simple polynomials, arithmetic operations on fractions and rational expressions, laws of exponents, linear equations and inequalities in one variable, quadratic equations using factoring. **Pass/fail grading only.** Does not count toward BA or BS degree.

Mathematics Learning Center (MLC): Located in ENG 136, the MLC is a wonderful (and free) resource. The center provides walk-in tutoring, along with other services, for all UCCS students. PLEASE SIGN IN.

Grading Policy:

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| Homework/Quizzes | 15% |
| Exam 1 | 25% |
| Exam 2 | 25% |
| Final Exam | 35% |

In this course, you will be graded on a pass/fail basis. You must get at least a 80% in the course in order to guarantee a passing grade.

Homework: Homework will be assigned at the end of each class period and will *usually* be collected the following Tuesday. Late homework will not be accepted for any reason. Each assignment must be organized, legible and stapled for full credit. I will drop your two lowest homework scores from your final grade.

Prerequisites: Although this course has no required prerequisites, you should already know some algebra. This is a refresher course, and will be nothing more than that. If you have any questions about this, or would like to discuss courses that will teach you these algebra skills, please contact me immediately.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be given randomly and will not always be announced. NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES WILL BE GIVEN FOR ANY REASON. If a student misses a quiz, he/she will receive a zero for that quiz; however, I will drop the lowest quiz score from your final grade.

Tests: Two 75-minute exams and a comprehensive final exam will be given. Tests should be taken in pencil and NO CALCULATORS (or any electronic devices) WILL BE ALLOWED ON ANY EXAMS. NO MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN. Every student must take the Final Exam at the designated time and date – no exceptions.

Calculators: NO CALCULATORS of any kind will be allowed on any quizzes or exams. I encourage you to avoid them on your homework and worksheets as well.

Problem-Solving Sessions: The last hour of each class period will be dedicated to problem-solving sessions, allowing students to practice the topics discussed in class. While these sessions are not required, they are strongly recommended.

Dropping Policy: Any student should seek counseling from the Dean's office before dropping any course.

Disability statement: Students with disabilities should provide their letters of certification and accommodation within the first two weeks of class. To contact the Disabilities Office, call 255-3354.

Military Students: If you are expecting to be called for military duty during the course of the semester, please notify me as soon as possible.

Some other thoughts: In order for you to succeed in this class, I strongly recommend coming to class, taking notes, reading your book, doing (and understanding) your homework, and seeking help from the many support services that exist. I also encourage you to communicate with me, your instructor. If, for some reason, you are unable to perform some of these tasks (coming to class, doing homework, etc.) please discuss the situation with me. If you do not keep me informed, I cannot help you. It is your responsibility.

Note: The information and policies contained in this syllabus may be changed at any time by the instructor. Any changes will be announced in class.

Syllabus:

1. Fractions and Mixed Numbers
2. Negative numbers (Unit 1)
3. Order of operations (Unit 1)
4. Simplifying algebraic expressions (Unit 2)
5. Linear Equations (Unit 3)
6. Applications (Unit 6)
7. Exponents (Units 7-9)
8. Adding, Subtracting and Multiplying Polynomials (Unit 16)
9. Factoring Polynomials (Units 18-20)
10. Quadratic Equations (Unit 21) - *optional*
11. Simplifying Rational Expressions
12. Complex Fractions
13. Rational equations
14. Radicals (Unit 12)
15. Rational exponents (Unit 13)
16. Rationalizing Denominators

*"If by chance I have omitted anything more or less proper or necessary, I beg forgiveness, since there is no one who is without fault and circumspect in all matters."
-Leonardo Fibonacci*