Cañada College

Math 811  Pre-Algebra Syllabus  Spring 2011

Mon/Wed:  9:45 am-11:00 am    Room 22-118

Instructor:  Raymond M. Lapuz

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                     www.coursecompass.com

Office Hours: Mondays 2:30-3:30pm at the Learning Center and by arrangement.

Sections:  You will need to sign up for two hours per week to attend study groups at the
Learning Center.  More details in class.

Course Description:  Covers the fundamental processes in arithmetic: reading mathematical
notation, translating words into symbols, and properties of the real number system.
Introduction to geometry and algebra. Units do not apply toward AA/AS degree.

Prerequisite:  None.

Required Materials:
Calculator:  Calculators may be used after Chapter 4.

Student Learning Outcomes: By the end of this course, you will be able to…
1.  Simplify expressions using mathematical operations using order of operations.
2.  Simplify expressions involving fractions.
3.  Set up and solve a proportion problem.
4.  Solve problems involving percentages.
5.  Finding an unknown quantity from a geometric figure.
6.  Perform mathematical operations using signed numbers.
7.  Translate verbal expressions into math and solve.
8.  Gain confidence in their math skills and abilities.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class meeting. Absences and
tardies will be noted and I reserve the right to drop any student who is consistently
absent or late.

The Learning Center and the Math Lab: Cañada College has an excellent well-staffed
Learning Center in the second floor of building 9. There are individual tutors
available. Sections will be held in the Math Lab, toward the back of the Learning
Center.

Academic Integrity Statement:
Don’t cheat! Cheating is a violation of academic integrity. A student caught cheating
will receive a failing grade for the assignment in question and a report will be
submitted to the Vice President of Student Services. Any other occurrences of
cheating will result in more serious reprimands.
Your course grade will be based on the following:

- **Homework**: 10%
- **Mastery Exams**: 80%
- **Section/Worksheets**: 10%
- **Class Participation**: 2% Extra Credit

**Homework**: Homework will be completed online (www.coursecompass.com). There will be a homework set for each section covered in class; each assignment will have between 5 to 20 problems. More will be discussed in class.

**Mastery Exams**: Exams will be given in class at the end of every one or two chapters. In order to pass an exam, you will need to score at least 80% (no partial credit will be given). If you do not pass, you will receive a 0% for the exam; if you pass, you will receive the score that you earned. You are allowed THREE Make Ups on the Mastery Exams, which you can take outside of class in the Math Lab/Learning Center. Before retaking a test, you will need to see a tutor to review all of the problems that you missed.

**Sections/Worksheets**: This course requires you to spend 2 “Hours by Arrangement” per week. This requirement will be satisfied by attending study groups at the Learning Center and completing 32 worksheets. You will need to sign up for study groups; sign-in sheets will be available in the beginning of the semester. The worksheets are problems that come from the textbook and will provide more practice for preparing for the Mastery Exams. More details will be discussed in class.

**Class Work and Participation**: Your participation includes class work and attendance. We will have assignments or problems in class to be worked on individually or in small groups. Class work cannot be made up if missed.

A following grading scheme will apply:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall Grade</th>
<th>Overall Percent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>92.5% and above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>85% - 92.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>75% - 84.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60% - 74.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 60%</td>
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</tbody>
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**Special Assignment**: Write about your background in math, beginning as far back as you can remember. Describe successes, failures, pleasant experiences, frustrations, and your confidence in your math abilities in the past and present. Discuss your strengths and weaknesses, and how they were developed. Also, describe what kind of math you see yourself doing in the future.

I hear ... and I forget.
I see ... and I remember.
I do ... and I understand.

Anonymous