

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2015	Instructor Name:	Zhong Wen Hu
Course Title & #:	Beginning Algebra, Math 081	Email:	zhong.hu@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20354	Webpage (optional):	http://imperial.blackboard.com http://www.mathxl.com
Classroom:	403	Office #:	2765
Class Dates:	2/17/2015 – 6/12/2015 Deadline to drop class with W: May 16, 2015	Office Hours:	MW: 10:00am -11:00 am MW: 7:10 pm -7:40 pm T: 11:15 am -11:45 am F: 10:00am -10:30 am Or by appointment
Class Days:	MW	Office Phone #:	760-355-6489
Class Times:	7:45 pm -9:50 pm	Emergency Contact:	Email me or call my office phone
Units:	4		

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the concepts of Algebra. Topics covered include solving equations, polynomials, factoring, rational expressions, graphs and linear equations, systems of linear equations, and inequalities.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Solve linear equations in one variable. (ILO2)
2. Factor polynomial expressions using a variety of methods and solve polynomial equations. (ILO2)
3. Graph linear equations and find values related to linear graphs. (ILO2)
4. Solve application problems appropriate to beginning algebra. (ILO2)

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate skills in solving first-degree equations.
2. Demonstrate the ability to solve many problems in diverse areas, in a step-by-step manner, when dealing with applications.
3. Develop manipulation skills when operating polynomials.
4. Demonstrate the various types of factoring and be cognizant of the factoring process.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of skills in operations with and simplifications of rational expressions.
6. Demonstrate a visual understanding of the Cartesian Coordinate System and linear graphs.
7. Demonstrate the ability to solve linear systems of equations both algebraically and graphically.
8. Demonstrate the ability to solve linear inequalities algebraically and be able to present the solutions graphically.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Blitzer (2012). *Introductory & Intermediate Algebra for College Students* (4th/e). Pearson. ISBN: 978-0321729385.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Homework

Homework will be assigned at each class meeting. They should be on stapled arranged in the correct order. Please write your name and section number on the top right corner. Late homework will NOT be accepted. No make-up homework. At the end of the semester one lowest homework score will be dropped. It is your responsibility to check the homework assignment even if you are absent. The first 10 minutes of class will be devoted to answering your questions.

Or

You can do homework using MathXL. **The Course ID for your course is:** [XL1U-318X-801Z-7T52](#)

Homework will be due by the date of each test.

Why do I need to do homework?

Every semester, there are several students could not pass my class because they did not complete all of the homework assignments or did not do any homework assignments

Quiz/Pop-quiz/Group Project

A quiz may be given at any time during any class period. It may not be announced. The number of quizzes in the semester will be instructor's discretion. The purpose is to provide a feedback on the learning outcome. The lowest quiz scores will be dropped. The quiz will contribute a small portion of the semester grade.

Tests

There will be four tests. No make-up tests will be given. The lowest score of the chapter tests will be dropped. If a test is missed, it will be the test score that is dropped. The purpose of these tests is to check your understanding of the concepts covered in the course. Most of the questions on these tests will require showing a significant amount of work. A correct answer with insufficient work will receive partial credit or no credit.

*Bring your own papers and pens/pencils on test days.

Final Exam

At the end of the semester, a COMPREHENSIVE/CUMULATIVE Final Exam will be given. If you miss the final, it will be recorded as a zero.

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requiremen

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Grading Policy

(Pop) Quiz/Group Project	10%
Homework	10%
Tests	60%
Final Exam	20%

Total	100%
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Grading scale for determining the final grade

- A: 90%-100%
- B: 80%-89%
- C: 70%-79%
- D: 60%-69%
- F: 0%-59%

Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See [General Catalog](#) for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- **Plagiarism** is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.
- **Cheating** is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the [General Catalog](#) for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

Additional Student Services

- **Blackboard Support Site.** The Blackboard Support Site provides a variety of support channels available to students 24 hours per day.
- **Learning Services.** There are several learning labs on campus to assist students through the use of computers and tutors. Please consult your [Campus Map](#) for the [Math Lab](#); [Reading, Writing & Language Labs](#); and the [Study Skills Center](#).
- **Library Services.** There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the [Study Skills Center](#), study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the [Disabled Student Programs and Services](#) (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313. Please contact them if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee.

- **Student Health Center.** A Student Health Nurse is available on campus. In addition, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District and El Centro Regional Center provide basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6310 in Room 2109 for more information.
- **Mental Health Counseling Services.** Short-term individual, couples, family, and group therapy are provided to currently enrolled students. Contact the IVC [Mental Health Counseling Services](#) at 760-355-6196 in Room 2109 for more information.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and to due process of law. For more information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC [General Catalog](#).

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. The IVC [Library Department](#) provides numerous [Information Literacy Tutorials](#) to assist students in this endeavor.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
2/18	Syllabus & Introduction Review Chapter 1	
2/23	Review Chapter 1 and Chapter 2.1	
2/25	Chapter 2.2, 2.3	
3/2	Chapter 2.3, 2.4	
3/4	Chapter 2.5, 2.6	
3/9	Chapter 2.6, 2.7	
3/11	Review and Test 1 (Chapter 1 and 2)	Homework is due
3/16	Chapter 3.1, 3.2	
3/18	Chapter 3.3, 3.4	
3/23	Chapter 3.4, 3.5	
3/25	Chapter 4.1, 4.2	
3/30	Chapter 4.3, 4.4	
4/1	Review and Test 2 (Chapter 3.1-3.5 and 4.1-4.4)	Homework is due
4/6 to 4/11	Spring Break (Campus Closed)	
4/13	Chapter 5.1, 5.2	
4/15	Chapter 5.3, 5.4	
4/20	Chapter 5.5, 5.6	
4/22	Chapter 5.7, 6.1	
4/27	Chapter 6.2, 6.3	

Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus – Math 81 Beginning Algebra

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
4/29	Review and Test 3 (Chapter 5 and Chapter 6.1-6.3)	Homework is due
5/4	Chapter 6.4,	
5/6	Chapter 6.5, 6.6	
5/11	Chapter 6.6, 7.1	
5/13	Chapter 7.2, 7.3	
5/18	Chapter 7.3, 7.4	
5/20	Review and Test 4(Chapter 6.4-6.6 and Chapter 7.1-7.4)	Homework is due
5/25	Memorial Day (Campus Closed)	
5/27	Chapter 7.5	
6/1	Chapter 7.6	
6/3	Chapter 7.7	
6/8	Review	Homework is due
6/10	Final Exam	

*****Tentative, subject to change without prior notice*****