

### Basic Course Information

Semester:	Fall 2017	Instructor Name:	Caroline Bennett
Course Title & #:	Math 91: Intermediate Algebra	Email:	caroline.bennett@imperial.edu
CRN #:	10106	Webpage (optional):	N/A
Classroom:	Building 800; Room 806	Office #:	Building 2700; Room 2765
Class Dates:	08/14/17 – 12/8/17	Office Hours:	M W 11:45 – 12:45; T Th 4:30 – 5:30
Class Days:	Tues / Thurs	Office Phone #:	(760) 355 – 6124
Class Times:	10:15 am – 12:45 pm	Emergency Contact:	(760) 355 – 6155
Units:	5.0		or (760) 355 – 6201

### Course Description

A further study of the concepts of algebra. Topics covered include linear and quadratic equations, relations, functions and graphs, radical expressions and equations, logarithmic and exponential functions, conic sections, and sequences and series. (Nontransferable, AA/AS degree only)

### Course Prerequisite(s)

Math 081 with a grade of “C” or better, or appropriate placement.

### Student Learning Outcomes

1. Solve quadratic equations by factoring, completing the square, and quadratic formula. (ILO2)
2. Solve equations involving radicals. (ILO2)
3. Recognize and graph conic sections from their equations. (ILO2)
4. Perform operations on functions algebraically. (ILO2)
5. Solve an application involving exponential functions. (ILO2, ILO5)

### Course Objectives

1. Demonstrate an understanding of radical expressions and equations.
2. Demonstrate an ability to solve applications, inequalities and absolute value inequalities.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of quadratic functions, including graphing and equations.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of functions and relations, including one-to-one functions.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of logarithmic and exponential functions and their graphs.
6. Classify and graph ellipses, parabolas, and hyperbolas.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of sequences and series and their operations.

## Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

**CALCULATOR:** A scientific calculator is **required**. **NO** graphing calculators or cell phones on exams.

**MATHXL ACCESS CODE (required):** This comes as an insert when you buy a new text. Otherwise, you may purchase an access code online or at the IVC Bookstore. Refer to the MathXL handout that will be **provided on Canvas**.

**TEXT (recommended):** Blitzer, Robert (2012). *Introductory and Intermediate Algebra for College Students*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Pearson. ISBN: 978-0-321729385

## Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

**HOMEWORK** is done online through MathXL in this class. The textbook also offers practice problems (many of which I can suggest in class), with answers to the odd exercises provided in the back. Although only the online homework is graded and recorded, the text's problems offer an additional source of practice. If math is a difficult subject for you, then more practice is always better. Practice problems from MathXL are intended to help you understand the material and perform better on tests. If you struggle with the material, here are some further tips:

- 1) Form a study group and work homework problems together with classmates.  
The Math Lab is a good place to study and work together with classmates.
- 2) If there is a particular homework problem you would really like to see in class, ask me before or at the beginning of class. I will try to accommodate requests if there is time; if there is not sufficient time, then we can arrange to meet after or outside of class for help.
- 3) Take advantage of the free tutoring resources on campus (see last page for details).

Homework should always be taken seriously in a math class. Math is a skill that you can become good at by **practicing it**. Coming to class and taking good notes is important, but doing homework is what deepens your understanding and sharpens your skills. Homework also helps you assess your own problem areas. When you struggle with homework problems, it will help you to ask more informed questions during the following class (instead of just saying "I'm lost" or "I can't do this"), so that I or a tutor can better help you.

**NOTE:** Although this course includes online homework, **it is not an online class**. Students who treat this class as an online class (i.e., skipping lectures and showing up only on test days) will find themselves losing a lot of points, if not dropped for excessive absence.

**PRE-TEST:** A "pre-test" is given during the first week of class, to help students assess their readiness for Math 91. Any student who receives less than 100% on the pre-test may raise their score to 100% by working through the corresponding MathXL assignment (minimum 90% completion). **AS WITH ALL MATH COURSES, PREREQUISITE SKILLS ARE CRUCIAL FOR YOUR SUCCESS.**

**EXAMS AND QUIZZES** closely reflect the material covered in class and on the homework. A tentative exam schedule is provided in this syllabus; however, exam dates (with the exception of the final exam) may be

subject to change, in accordance with the pace of the class. If an exam date is changed, you will be notified sufficiently in advance, both in class and on the Blackboard announcements page. Quiz dates are listed in the calendar as well.

**QUIZZES** occur every week in which there is not an exam. Quizzes come directly from MathXL homework problems, and they are **open-note** (not open-book). **Students may work in groups** of up to 4 during quizzes (not for exams). All group members from each group receive the same quiz score. Quizzes always take place during the last part of class, and may not be taken early (don't even ask!). **There are no make-up quizzes. If you are absent or leave class early, then you miss the quiz. Period.**

**MAKE-UPS:** There are no make-up exams. Do not miss a scheduled exam. No exam scores will be “dropped”. However, your **lowest regular exam score (excluding the Final Exam) will be replaced by your overall MathXL score if that exceeds your lowest exam score.** If you miss an exam, then that will be your lowest score.

**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. The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) has adopted a similar requirement. **Since this is a 5 unit class, this means that you should expect and plan for a minimum of 10 hours to be spent working on algebra outside of class each week.**

**Course Grading Based on Course Objectives**

**EVALUATION:**

In-class activities	80
Pre-test	20
MathXL homework	120
Quizzes (10 x 10 pts. each)	100
4 exams × 120 points each	480
Final Exam (cumulative)	<u>+ 200</u>
	1000

**GRADING SCALE**

900 – 1000	A
800 – 899	B
700 – 799	C
600 – 699	D
Below 600	F

**The grade that is earned, according to the point scale above, is the grade that will be received. Grades are not subjective. Grades are not negotiable. All students will be treated equally.**

**NOTE: The final exam in this course is cumulative and mandatory for all students.**

**NOTE: Math 91 has a “common final”, which means every Math 91 student from every section takes exactly the same final exam, which is written by one or more instructors not currently teaching Math 91 that particular semester. This promotes fairness and consistency across all Math 91 sections.**

## 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.

**Any in-class activities or worksheets that are missed due to an absence CANNOT be made up. Those make up your attendance grade.** Furthermore, on quizzes and exams you are responsible for all material covered in class, regardless of whether or not you were here. Therefore, if you do miss class, you should obtain any missed worksheets or other materials from the instructor, and obtain lecture notes from a classmate.

Attendance is crucial to your success in this course. You are expected to attend every class and **remain during the entire class. Leaving class early without prior consent from the instructor counts as an absence, and** costs points.

Although you may be dropped for excessive absences, you should never *assume* the instructor has dropped you if you simply stop showing up. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have dropped through WebSTAR by the deadline (November 4, 2017) to receive a "W" instead of a failing grade.

## 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](#). [See pp. 43 – 44]
- **Children in the classroom:** Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

**School is place to act with respect.** Remember that different students have different paces and styles of learning, and that all students have the right to ask questions in class. As a student, you have the right to a safe and comfortable learning environment. **You do not have the right to impinge on other students' learning. Talking or other disruptive classroom behavior WILL affect your grade.**

### **Class work points:**

- You don't receive points for attending class or lose points for missing class. However, several in-class activities will be worth points which you can only receive if you are in class that day. Any activities you miss by being absent CANNOT be "made up".
- Unlike exam points and homework points, **class work points can be both earned and lost**. Points are lost through disrespectful or disruptive behavior, particularly those outlined below:

### **How to LOSE points during class:**

- **5 POINTS: Talking while the teacher is talking**, or being otherwise disruptive during lecture.
- **10 POINTS: Packing up and leaving in the middle of lecture**. Leaving during the break is bad enough, since you miss a lot of information during one section of class, and you cannot make up any in-class worksheets or other activities that you missed. So, you lose points in that regard. But, packing your things and leaving in the middle of lecture is hugely disruptive and rude. You will lose an automatic additional 10 points with each offense.

If you really must leave early due to an urgent situation, then you should notify the teacher before class (if at all possible). This should be a rare occurrence, not a frequent one.

### **Cell phones and other electronic devices:**

- Turn OFF all cell phones and electronic devices before class, and especially during exams.
- Cell phones that are on "vibrate" mode are STILL DISRUPTIVE.
- Leaving the room to answer cell phones that are in "silent" mode is disruptive and unacceptable. Take care of private calls/texting on your own time.
- Students who are texting/playing on their phones during class may be asked to leave, with an unexcused absence given for the day. **If you do not plan to engage in class, then don't bother coming!**
- The use of text messaging or other electronic devices for cheating on tests will be treated with the same seriousness as any other form of cheating (see ACADEMIC HONESTY below). Cell phones may NOT be used as calculators during exams.

## **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 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) use of a commercial term paper service.

- The consequences of academic dishonesty are severe and may include the possibility of expulsion. For further information, refer to the Standards of Student Conduct on p. 36 and pp. 43-44 of the 2017-2018 General Catalog.

### Additional Student Services

Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students. Please speak to your instructor about additional services which may be available.

- **CANVAS LMS:** Canvas is Imperial Valley College's main Learning Management System. To log onto Canvas, use this link: [Canvas Student Login](#). The [Canvas Student Guides Site](#) provides a variety of support available to students 24 hours per day. Additionally, a 24/7 Canvas Support Hotline is available for students to use: 877-893-9853.
- **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 provide basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6128 in Room 1536 for more information.
- **[Mental Health Counseling Services](#)**. Short-term individual, couples, family and group counseling services are available for currently enrolled students. Services are provided in a confidential, supportive, and culturally sensitive environment. Please contact the IVC Mental Health Counseling Services at 760-355-6310 or in the building 1536 for appointments or more information..

### Veteran's Center

The mission of the [IVC Military and Veteran Success Center](#) is to provide a holistic approach to serving military/veteran students on three key areas: 1) Academics, 2) Health and Wellness, and 3) Camaraderie; to serve as a central hub that connects military/veteran students, as well as their families, to campus and community resources. Their goal is to ensure a seamless transition from military to civilian life. The Center is located in Building 600 (Office 624), telephone 760-355-6141.

### Extended Opportunity Program and Services (EOPS)

The Extended Opportunity Program and Services (EOPS) offers services such as priority registration, personal/academic counseling, tutoring, book vouchers, and community referrals to qualifying low-income students. EOPS is composed of a group of professionals ready to assist you with the resolution of both academic and personal issues. Our staff is set up to understand the problems of our culturally diverse population and strives to meet student needs that are as diverse as our student population.

Also under the umbrella of EOPS our CARE (Cooperative Agency Resources for Education) Program for single parents is specifically designed to provide support services and assist with the resolution of issues that are particular to this population. Students that are single parents receiving TANF/Cash Aid assistance may qualify for our CARE program, for additional information on CARE please contact Lourdes Mercado, 760-355- 6448, [lourdes.mercado@imperial.edu](mailto:lourdes.mercado@imperial.edu).



EOPS provides additional support and services that may identify with one of the following experiences:

- Current and former foster youth students that were in the foster care system at any point in their lives
- Students experiencing homelessness
- Formerly incarcerated students

To apply for EOPS and for additional information on EOPS services, please contact Alexis Ayala, 760-355-5713, [alexis.ayala@imperial.edu](mailto:alexis.ayala@imperial.edu).

### **Student Equity Program**

- The Student Equity Program strives to improve Imperial Valley College's success outcomes, particularly for students who have been historically underrepresented and underserved. The college identifies strategies to monitor and address equity issues, making efforts to mitigate any disproportionate impact on student success and achievement. Our institutional data provides insight surrounding student populations who historically, are not fully represented. Student Equity addresses disparities and/or disproportionate impact in student success across disaggregated student equity groups including gender, ethnicity, disability status, financial need, Veterans, foster youth, homelessness, and formerly incarcerated students. The Student Equity Program provides direct supportive services to empower students experiencing insecurities related to food, housing, transportation, textbooks, and shower access. We recognize that students who struggle meeting their basic needs are also at an academic and economic disadvantage, creating barriers to academic success and wellness. We strive to remove barriers that affect IVC students' access to education, degree and certificate completion, successful completion of developmental math and English courses, and the ability to transfer to a university. Contact: 760.355.5736 or 760.355.5733 Building 100.
- The Student Equity Program also houses IVC's Homeless Liaison, who provides direct services, campus, and community referrals to students experiencing homelessness as defined by the McKinney-Vento Act. Contact: 760.355.5736 Building 100.

### **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**

(\*With the exception of the Final Exam, these dates are tentative and subject to change with advance notice!)

Tuesday		Thursday	
8/15	Syllabus; Readiness Test	8/17	Review; 8.1, 8.2
8/22	8.3, 8.4 <b>Algebra Pre-Test</b>	8/24	8.4; 9.1 – 9.2; Homework Quiz 1
8/29	9.2, 9.3	8/31	9.3, 9.4; Homework Quiz 2
9/5	9.4, 10.1; review	9/7	<b>EXAM 1</b>
9/12	10.2, 10.3	9/14	10.3, 10.4; Homework Quiz 3
9/19	10.5, 10.6	9/21	10.6, 10.7; Homework Quiz 4
9/26	11.1, 11.2; review	9/28	<b>EXAM 2</b>
10/3	11.2, 11.4	10/5	11.4, 11.3, 11.5
10/10	11.5, 12.1	10/12	12.1, 12.2; Homework Quiz 6
10/17	12.3; 12.4	10/19	12.4, 12.5; Homework Quiz 7
10/24	12.5; review	10/26	<b>EXAM 3</b>
10/31	13.1, 13.2	11/2	13.2, 13.3; Homework Quiz 8
11/7	13.3, 13.4	11/9	13.4, 13.5; Homework Quiz 9
11/14	13.5; review	11/16	<b>EXAM 4</b>
11/21	<b>HOLIDAY – NO CLASS</b>	11/23	<b>HOLIDAY – NO CLASS</b>
11/28	14.1, 14.2	11/30	14.2, 14.3; Homework Quiz 10
12/5	Review	12/7	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>

**IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES:**

August 26	Last day to withdraw without owing fees and/or be eligible for a refund Last day to add a class
August 27	Last day to withdraw without course appearing on transcripts (without receiving a “W”)
November 4	Last day to withdraw and receive a “W”
December 7	Final Exam (comprehensive)

**ON-CAMPUS TUTORING RESOURCES:**

Math Lab	Study Skills Center	Additional Math/Science Tutoring
Building 2500	Located in the Library	Building 2600
Mon. – Thurs.: 8 a.m. – 9 p.m.	Mon. – Thurs.: 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.	Mon. – Thurs.: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Friday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Friday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday: 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Saturday: Closed	Saturday: Closed
(760) 355 – 6160 (Zhong Hu)	(760) 355 – 6384 (Josue Verduzco)	Phone: (760) 355 – 6392
(760) 355 – 6187 (Rosario Marin)		

*“Never regard your study as a duty, but as the enviable opportunity to learn to know the liberating influence of beauty in the realm of the spirit for your own personal joy and to the profit of the community to which your later work belongs.” -- Albert Einstein*

## MINIMUM INFORMATION TO TAKE AWAY FROM FIRST DAY OF CLASS:

1. **MathXL access code is mandatory. Textbook is recommended but not required.**
2. **It is virtually impossible to pass this class without attending and doing the homework.**
3. **Plan to stay for the full duration of, and participate in, every class.**
4. **There are numerous tutoring resources around campus to help you. Take advantage of them.**
5. **The professor is not your enemy. The professor is here to help you.**

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*-- Albert Einstein*

