



## IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE MATH 081-BEGINNING ALGEBRA

### Course Syllabus – Spring 2013

**Instructor:** Dr. Alejandro Cozzani  
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**Office Hours:** Mondays and Wednesdays from 7:00 to 7:30 AM.  
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:45 to 10:15 AM and 11:40 AM to 12:40 PM.

**Class Meetings:** Monday and Wednesdays from 12:40 PM to 2:45 PM in room 2722.

**Code:** CRN 20191

**MathXL:** [XL13-81P5-101Z-4T52](#)

**Class Meetings:** Monday and Wednesdays from 3:05 PM to 5:10 PM in room 2722.

**Code:** CRN 20192

**MathXL:** [XL13-81PD-201Z-2T52](#)

**Textbook:** Beginning Algebra and Intermediate Algebra PKG Imperial Valley College (Blitzer), ISBN: 1256711500.

**Prerequisite:** Math 071 with a grade of "C" or higher, or appropriate placement.

**Units:** 3.0

**Course Philosophy:** 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.

#### **Measurable Course Objectives and Minimum Standards for Grade of "C"**

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.

### INSTITUTIONAL LEARNING OUTCOMES (ISLOs):

1. Communication Skills
2. Critical Thinking Skills
3. Personal Responsibility
4. Information Literacy
5. Global Awareness

### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs)

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)

### Grading Criteria

Course must be taken on a "letter-grade" (LG) basis only.

### Grading Policy

The student's grade will depend on the following areas (not on total points):

Semester Tests:	<b>60%</b>	There will be <u>3</u> tests and there will be no makeup exams given. Zeros will be given for all missed tests.
Final Exam:	<b>25%</b>	The common final will be given during the last week of the semester. <b>A score of 0 will be given if the final is missed.</b>
Homework	<b>15%</b>	Done on MathXL.
Extra Credit:	<b>0%</b>	There will be <u>no extra credit</u> . Students must learn the material to pass this course.

All grades are calculated by using the standard scale of:

**A = 100-90%**

D = 69-60%

**B = 89-80%**

F = 59% and below

**C = 79-70%**

### Class Rules and Expectations

1. Failure is not a good choice, so apply yourself, study, do not give up on the first try, attend class regularly, ask for help when needed, and always do your best!
2. The student is expected to attend class meetings regularly. After the SECOND absence, if the student does not drop the class via Webstar, he/she will receive an "F" as final grade; so it is the student's responsibility to drop before the deadline.
3. What constitutes an absence? Not showing up to class during a regular class meeting, or arriving more than 20 minutes after the beginning of the class, or leaving more than 20 before the end of the class.
  - a. Example: Class starts at 10:00 AM and ends at 12:00 PM. If you arrive after 10:20 AM you are absent. If you leave before 11:40 AM you are marked absent. If you leave the room for more than 20 minutes for whatever reason, you are absent.

4. What constitutes a tardy? Arriving within the first 20 minutes after the beginning of the class or leaving within the last 20 minutes before the end of the class (3T = 1A).
  - a. Example: Class starts at 10:00 AM and ends at 12:00 PM. If you arrive between 10:01 AM and 10:20 AM you are marked tardy. If you leave between 11:41 AM and 12:00 PM you are marked tardy as well as if you "disappear" from the room for no more than 20 minutes (i.e. having lunch). If you need to use the restroom, you are expected to return within a reasonable time period.
5. If a student reaches the third absence after the deadline, his/her grade will be reduced one letter grade for each subsequent absence.
  - a. Example: your current grade is an "A." On the 3<sup>rd</sup> absence you will get a final grade of "B." On the 4<sup>th</sup> one, your grade is "C," and on the 5<sup>th</sup> one, a "D." Beyond that, your final grade is "F." Exceptions include-for example- hospitalization for several days and with appropriate documentation.
6. Deadline to drop the class with a "W" is April 13, 2013. Late drops on graded classes will require that the student receive an F.
7. Class materials such as a notebook or binder with lined paper, pen, pencil, scientific calculator (no graphing calculator), and the textbook will be brought to every class meeting.
8. It is up most important that students review the material to do well on exams.
9. Students are encouraged to form study groups to meet regularly to keep up with assignments and to study for tests and the final exam.
10. Late homework assignments are not be accepted because MathXL automatically will block past due assignments, so it is student's responsibility to complete them by the deadlines.
11. Students will not be allowed to make up a test or exam or final exam, so plan on being present those days.
12. No photocopied textbooks are allowed. No audible pagers or cell phones allowed. You will be dropped on your second offense for disturbing the class in this manner.
13. No food or drinks are allowed in the classroom other than bottled water (no substitutes!).
14. No children are allowed in the classroom.
15. Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved conferences and contests and attendance upon field trips will not be counted as absences (this includes sports). However, the student is responsible for notifying the instructor and for the work done in class. If your absence coincides with an exam, it is student's responsibility to contact the instructor via e-mail or by phone before the following class meeting to make it up. Failure to do so will result in a "zero" for that particular exam.
16. Discipline: you need to understand that this is a college class so appropriate behavior is expected at all times (i.e. not speaking out of turn, raise your hand to talk and wait until acknowledged, paying attention, avoid side comments, not answering your cell phone in class, working in assignments for another class, etc.). For this reason, no discipline problem will be tolerated.
  - a. First offense: warning.
  - b. Second offense: student will immediately be dropped from the class.
17. 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. DSP&S, Room 2117, Health Sciences Building, (760) 355-6312.
18. Classroom Etiquette-In class, it is expected that you will treat your instructor and each other with respect. Do not talk when the instructor is lecturing except to ask a question to the instructor or answer a question posed to the class. Feel free to ask questions as needed and listen when someone else is asking a question because you may have the same one.
19. Academic Integrity- If a student is found cheating in a test, he/she will receive a grade of zero for the test. If cheating is repeated, he/she will receive a grade of F for the course and will be immediately dropped from the class.

20. **Homework:** The purpose of homework is to provide students with sufficient practice to master all topics and to do well on tests and the final exam. Use MathXL (all assignments are listed online as well as deadlines). It is student's responsibility to complete them on or before the deadline regardless whether he/she is absent. Please keep in mind that after the deadline you will not be able to work on that specific assignment because the program will lock it automatically. Each assignment must be at least 90% complete to get full credit for that particular HW (10/10 points). However, you will receive partial credit for HW. For example: if you score 70% = 7/10 points, 54%=5/10 points, etc.
21. **Calendar** (It may be subject to modification according to students' needs).

WEEK #	CORE CONTENT	ASSIGNMENTS – TESTS
1-January 14	Syllabus Review	Chapter 1
2-January 21	<b>Solving equations</b> A. Solving equations in one variable B. Translating sentences into equations C. Applications	Chapter 2
3-January 28 4-February 04	<b>Graphs and linear equations</b> A. The Cartesian coordinate system B. Graphs of lines C. Intercepts and slopes of lines D. Equations of lines E. Functions F. Applications	Chapter 3
5-February 11	<b>Test # 1</b>	Chapters 1-2-3
6-February 18	<b>Systems of linear equations in two variables</b> A. Solving systems of linear equations by graphing B. Solving systems of linear equations by the substitution method C. Solving systems of linear equations by the addition method D. Application problems in two variables	Chapter 4
7-February 25	<b>Polynomials</b> A. Addition and subtraction of polynomials B. Multiplication of polynomials C. Division of polynomials including long division and synthetic division	Chapter 5

8-March 04 9-March 11	<b>Factoring</b> A. Monomial factors B. Factoring trinomials C. Special factoring (including cubic) D. Solving equations by factoring E. Applications	Chapter 6
10-March 18	<b>Test # 2</b>	Chapters 4-5-6
11-March 25 12-April 08	<b>Exponents and Radicals</b> A. Properties of exponents B. Rational exponents, zero and negative exponents C. Operations on radical expressions <b>Rational Expressions</b> A. Simplify rational expressions B. Operations on rational expressions C. Complex fractions D. Ratio and proportion E. Rational equations F. Applications	Chapter 7
13-April 15	<b>Inequalities</b> A. Sets and notation B. Addition and multiplication properties of inequalities C. Graphing linear inequalities D. Absolute value equations and inequalities E. Applications	Chapter 9
14-April 22	<b>Test # 3</b>	Chapter 7-9
15-April 29	Review all chapters for final exam	
16-May 06	Final Exam-All Chapters (Day one) Grades and questions (Day two)	Final Exam: All chapters