

Basic Course Information

Semester	Fall 2014	Instructor Name	Rick Castrapel
Course Title & #	Beginning Algebra Math 81	Email	rick.castrapel@imperial.edu
CRN #	10395	Webpage (optional)	spaces.imperial.edu/rick.castrapel
Room	2723	Office	2766
Class Dates	August 19 to Dec 10, 2014 Drop deadline: November 8, 2014	Office Hours	M 4:30-5:30pm, W 11:00am-12:00pm, TR 2:00-3:00pm or by appointment
Class Days	Tuesdays and Thursdays	Office Phone #	760-355-6505
Class Times	3:05pm-5:10pm	Office contact if student will be out or emergency	Silvia Murray 760-355-6201 or Ofelia Duarte 760-355-6155
Units	4 units		

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

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

1. Beginning Algebra and Intermediate Algebra Imperial Valley College (Blitzer), ISBN: 1256711500, chapters 2--7.
2. MathXL subscription. See the attached information.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

1. Exams or Tests: There will be five tests and there will be no makeup exams given. The lowest score of the five tests will be disregarded. Please refer to calendar for dates.
2. Final Exam: The final will be given during the last day of classes. A score of 0 will be given if the final is missed. Please refer to calendar for dates.
3. 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. Homework is assigned and completed online through MathXL.

Homework deadlines are set to assure that you complete the homework before the test on covered material. **Do not ask for an extension to the MathXL homework deadline. There is no point in studying for a test after you have already taken it.**

4. In-class practice sheets will be assigned and completed during each Thursday class session. This work is to be done in class and turned in before the break. No make-ups.

5. There will be no extra credit. Students must learn the material to pass this course.

6. It is utmost important that students review the material to do well on exams. Students are encouraged to form study groups to meet regularly to keep up with labs and homework and to study for tests.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

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

Semester Tests:	60%	There will be 5 tests and there will be no makeup exams given. The lowest scoring test will be disregarded.
Final Exam:	20%	The final will be given on the last day of the semester. A score of 0 will be given if the final is missed.
Homework	10%	Homework is done online via MathXL. See the attached information.
In-class Practice	10%	Work done during class and turned in before the break. No makeups.
Extra Credit:	0%	There is no extra credit. Students must learn the material to pass this course.

All grades are calculated by using the standard scale of: A = 100---90% B = 89---80% C = 79---70% D = 69---60% F = 59% and below

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.
- 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

- 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 School 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 Help – Discretionary Section and Language

- Blackboard support center: <http://bbcrm.edusupportcenter.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=8543>
- Learning Labs: There are several 'labs' on campus to assist you through the use of computers, tutors, or a combination. Please consult your college map for the Math Lab, Reading & Writing Lab, and Study Skills Center (library). Please speak to the instructor about labs unique to your specific program.
- 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, 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. We now also have a fulltime mental health counselor. For information see <http://www.imperial.edu/students/student-health-center/>. The IVC Student Health Center is located in the Health Science building in Room 2109, telephone 760-355-6310.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and due process. For further information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online at http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. Students can access tutorials at <http://www.imperial.edu/courses-and-programs/divisions/arts-and-letters/library-department/info-lit-tutorials/>

Anticipated Class Schedule / Calendar

Math 81 Fall 2014 Tentative Schedule			
Date	Text	Event	Topic
08/19/14	Ch 1	Course Introduction	Review
08/21/14	Ch 1		Review
08/26/14	Ch 1		Review
08/28/14	Test 1		Ch 1
09/02/14	2.1-2.2		
09/04/14	2.3, 2.4		
09/09/14	2.5		
09/11/14	2.6, 2.7		
09/16/14	3.1,3.2		
09/18/14	3.3-3.5		
09/23/14	Test 2		Ch 2 and Ch 3
09/25/14	4.1, 4.2		
09/30/14	4.3, 4.4		
10/02/14	5.1, 5.2		
10/07/14	5.3, 5.4		
10/09/14	5.5		
10/14/14	5.6		
10/16/14	5.7		
10/21/14	Test 3		Ch 4.1-4.4 and Ch 5
10/23/14	6.1, 6.2		
10/28/14	6.3, 6.4		
10/30/14	6.5		
11/04/14	6.6		
11/06/14	Test 4		Ch 6
11/11/14		Holiday	Veterans Day
11/13/14	7.1, 7.2		
11/18/14	7.3, 7.4		
11/20/14	7.5, 7.6		
11/25/14		Holiday	Thanksgiving Break
11/27/14			
12/02/14	7.7		
12/04/14	Test 5		Ch 7
12/09/14	Review		Review for Final Exam
12/11/14		Final Exam	Comprehensive Final



How to Register and Enroll in Your Course

Welcome to MathXL! Your instructor has set up a MathXL course for you.

The course name is: Math 81 TR 3:30-5:10pm 10395

It is based on this textbook: *Blitzer: Introductory & Intermediate Algebra for College Students, 4e*

To join this course, you need to register for MathXL and then enroll in the course.

1. Registering for MathXL

Before you begin, make sure you have the access code that comes with your MathXL Access Kit.

To register or buy access, go to www.mathxl.com, click the **Student** button in the Register section, and then follow the instructions on the screen.

2. Enrolling in your instructor's course

After registering, log in to MathXL with your username and password. To enroll in this course, enter the following Course ID:

The Course ID for your course is: XL1K - N15T - 901Z - 1T52

Need more help?

To view a complete set of instructions on registering and enrolling, go to www.mathxl.com and visit the Tours page.