Math 108 Intermediate Algebra Course Syllabus
4 Credits
Semester/year: Fall 2007    Office Location: Shields 207C
Instructor: Jason Rose     Office Hours: M 5PM, Tu 11AM, W&F 1 PM, or by appt.
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1. Course Description: This course is designed to prepare the student for college algebra. It covers first-degree equations and inequalities, linear functions, systems of linear equations, polynomials, factorization, rational expressions, negative and rational exponents, radicals, quadratic equations, graphing functions, logarithms, and application problems.

2. Pre-requisites: C or better in Math 025 OR placement recommendation from COMPASS (Algebra Score of 41 or greater.)


4. Course Objectives:
   • Understand Intermediate Algebra terminology
   • Apply this terminology in simple and complex patterns
   • Comprehend Intermediate Algebra methods used to analyze problems
   • Apply these methods to selected “real world” applications
   • Be prepared for Math 130, Math 143, Math 147 and other courses which have an Intermediate Algebra pre-requisite.

5. Outcomes Assessment: Homework will be collected almost daily and graded to assess student progress. Also, quizzes will be given. Midterm exams and a comprehensive final will be given to assess student mastery of topics. At the end of the semester, students will be given the opportunity to evaluate the instructor, the textbook, and the topics covered in the course. As part of departmental analysis of outcomes in this course and its place in the Mathematics program, student completion of the pre-requisite, success in the current course, success in subsequent courses and student satisfaction will be reviewed by the instructor. A report containing this information will be submitted by department faculty to determine what, if any, changes can be made to improve the course in terms of content, focus, and instruction.

6. Grading Policies
   Five Regular Exams-100 points each
   Homework and quiz scores – (averaged to contribute 100 points total)
   Focal Point Exam – 100 points total
   1 comprehensive final exam-200 points
   TOTAL - 900 points

   Grades are determined by adding your point totals and dividing by 9. 90-100 is an A, 80-89 is a B, 70-79 is a C, 60-69 is a D, and less than 60 is an F.

   The Focal Point Exam is a five-question exam that is scored all or nothing. Worth 100 points, all five questions are answered 100% proficient or your score is zero. No partial credit. The questions are scored on accuracy of the answers, quality of the solutions strategy, use of notation, and ability to communicate mathematically. A scoring rubric will be given to you later in the semester. You may take the focal point exam up to three times. It cannot be dropped.

   Cheating Policy: Any student caught cheating on an exam or copying another student’s work will receive an F for the course.

   Testing Policy: There will be NO MAKEUP EXAMS given, no exceptions. So make sure you do not miss a test. If an emergency arises and you cannot attend on test day, please contact my office at C.S.I. If you must miss a test (other than the focal point exam), that exam score will be replaced with your final exam score, weighted as one hundred points. If you miss two exams, then you will need to drop the course.

   Assignment Policy: Homework will be collected almost daily. I will not accept late homework, no exceptions. I will however drop your lowest homework score.

   Quiz Policy: A quiz will be given at the end of each section as announced. There will be no make-up quizzes. However, one quiz score will be dropped.

   Attendance Policy: In accordance with the catalog, if you miss twice the number of class meetings per week, you will be dropped from the course.

7. Resources for Help:
   a. Your instructor expects you to call or drop by.
b. Intermediate Algebra DVDs are available in the library.
c. Drop-in tutoring is available in the Math Lab in Shields 207 (see the schedule inside the door) or at the Math Help Desk in GRM 202.

8. **Library Use:** The Library is an excellent place to find further information about topics in mathematics. The computers in the library are available for your use in finding information from the card catalog and the internet as well as sending email. On that note, your **CSI E-mail** account is the primary source of written communication between you and the college. Students automatically get a CSI e-mail account when they register for courses. Messages from instructors and various offices such as Admission and Records, Advising, Financial Aid, Scholarships, etc. will be sent to the students’ CSI accounts (NOT their personal e-mail accounts). **It is the students’ responsibility to check their CSI e-mail accounts regularly.** Failing to do so will result in missing important messages and deadlines. Students can check their CSI e-mail online at [http://students.csi.edu](http://students.csi.edu). Student e-mail addresses have the following format: **username@students.csi.edu.** At the beginning of each semester free training sessions are offered to students who need help using their CSI e-mail accounts. For more information, see [http://www.csi.edu/currentStudents_/eagleInfo/studentEmail.html](http://www.csi.edu/currentStudents_/eagleInfo/studentEmail.html)

9. **Topical Outline for the Course:** We'll cover the following sections in the text:

- 1.1 The real number system,
- 1.2 Operations with real numbers
- 1.3 Properties of Real Numbers
- 1.4 Algebraic Expressions
- 1.5 Constructing Algebraic Expressions
- 2.1 Linear Equations
- 2.2 Linear Equations and Problem Solving
- 2.3 Business and Scientific Problems
- 2.4 Linear Inequalities
- 3.1 The Rectangular Coordinate System
- 3.2 Graphs of Equations
- 3.3 Slope and Graphs of Linear Equations
- 3.4 Equations of Lines
- 3.6 Relations and Functions
- 4.1 Systems of Equations
- 4.2 Linear systems in Two Variables
- 4.3 Linear systems in Three Variables
- 5.1 Integer Exponents and Scientific Notation
- 5.2 Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
- 5.3 Multiplying Polynomials
- 5.4 Factoring by Grouping and Special Forms
- 5.5 Factoring Trinomials
- 5.6 Solving Polynomial Equations by Factoring
- 6.1 Rational Expressions and Factoring
- 6.2 Multiplying and Dividing Rational Expressions
- 6.3 Adding and Subtracting Rational Expressions
- 6.4 Complex Fractions
- 6.5 Dividing Polynomials and Synthetic Division
- 6.6 Solving Rational Equations
- 6.7 Applications and Variation
- 7.1 Radicals and Rational Exponents
- 7.2 Simplifying Radical Expressions
- 7.3 Adding and Subtracting Radical Expressions
- 7.4 Multiplying and Dividing Radical Expressions
- 7.5 Radical Equations and Applications
- 7.6 Complex Numbers
- 8.1 Solving Quadratic Equations: Factoring and Special Forms
- 8.2 Completing the Square
- 8.3 The Quadratic Formula
- 8.4 Graphs of Quadratic Functions
- 8.6 Quadratic and Rational Inequalities
- 9.1 Exponential Functions
- 9.2 Composite and Inverse Functions
- 9.3 Logarithmic Functions
- 9.4 Properties of Logarithms
- 9.5 Solving Exponential and Logarithmic Equations

10. **On-line course evaluation statement:** Students are strongly encouraged to complete evaluations at the end of the course. Evaluations are very important to assist the teaching staff to continually improve the course. Evaluations are available online at: [http://evaluation.csi.edu](http://evaluation.csi.edu). Evaluations open up two weeks prior to the end of the course. The last day to complete an evaluation is the last day of the course. During the time the evaluations are open, students can complete the course evaluations at their convenience from any computer with Internet access, including in the open lab in the Library and in the SUB. When students log in they should see the evaluations for the courses in which they are enrolled. Evaluations are anonymous. Filling out the evaluation should only take a few minutes. Your honest feedback is greatly appreciated!

11. **Disabilities:** Any student with a documented disability may be eligible for related accommodations. To determine eligibility and secure services, students should contact the coordinator of Disability Services at their first opportunity after registration for a class. **Student Disability Services is located on the second floor of the Taylor Building on the Twin Falls Campus. 208.732.6260 (voice) or 208.734.9929 (TTY), or e-mail mhutchinson@csi.edu**