MATH 108 Intermediate Algebra (4 credits) Course Syllabus

Semester/year: Fall 2009
Instructor: Steve Irons
Office Number: Shields 205
E-Mail Address: sirons@csi.edu
Phone: 208-732-6830
Office Hours: 12-12:50 M W T
9-9:50 F

COMMUNICATION: Student email accounts are the official means of communication and the student is responsible for email received there.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to prepare the student for college algebra. It covers first-degree equations and inequalities, absolute value equations and inequalities, linear functions, systems of linear equations, polynomials, negative and rational exponents, radicals, rational expressions, quadratic equations, graphing functions, and logarithms.

PREREQUISITES: Math 025 with a C or better or Compass Placement score of 41 or higher on Algebra portion. (PREREQUISITE WILL BE ENFORCED)


EQUIPMENT: A scientific calculator or graphing calculator; graph paper.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: The student will have an understanding of intermediate algebra terminology. The student will apply the terminology to simple and complex patterns. The student will comprehend intermediate algebra methods used to analyze problems and apply these methods to selected “real world” problems.

OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT: Practice problems and homework will be used to assess mastery of course content. Chapter exams will be used to assess student achievement. Students will complete a course evaluation near the end of the semester. Students will complete a common final that will measure student’s knowledge of the material that was covered throughout the semester. Student’s homework, chapter exams and final exam will determine if the student has met the required grade of C or better, to progress to the next math course in their sequence.

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 course, and student satisfaction will be reviewed by the instructor and a report containing this information will be submitted by faculty to determine what, if any, changes can be made to improve the course in terms of content, focus, and instruction.

METHODS: Textbook study, lecture and explanation from instructor, class discussion, and help with instructor outside of class are all methods used.

TESTS POLICY: Five regular exams will be given during the semester. There will be no makeup exams given so make sure you do not miss a test. On the day of the exam, if an emergency arises and you cannot be there, please contact Mr. Irons’ office at 732-6830. You must contact the office before the exam. If you miss a test, that exam score will be a zero. Your lowest test score can be replaced with your score on the final.
GRADING POLICY:  
5 Regular Exams (100 points each)  
10 Assignments (100 points)  
Attendance percentage (100 points)  
1 comprehensive final exam (200 points)  
The grades are determined by adding the regular exams, assignments, and final exam. (900 total pts.)  

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<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>810-900 pts.</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>720-809 pts.</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>630-719 pts.</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>540-629 pts.</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 - 539 pts.</td>
<td>F</td>
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ATTENDANCE POLICY:  When the number of class absences (8 classes) exceeds twice the number of course credits, the student is responsible for dropping the course. The last day a student can drop the course is Friday, November 13, 2009. A class missed due to required participation in a verified school activity will not be considered an absence.

CHEATING POLICY:  A student caught in the act of cheating on an exam or copying another student’s assignment will receive a NO CREDIT for the semester and a notice of probation will be placed on the student’s permanent transcripts.

BEHAVIORAL POLICY:  Refer to page 14-15 in CSI catalog

DISABILITY SERVICES:  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 208-734.9299 (TTY), or e-mail cd Darling@csi.edu

HOMEWORK: (100 pts) The top 10 assignment will be averaged. Homework is due the next class after it is assigned. No late homework will be accepted for any reason after the due date. Homework is assigned to help you develop mathematical skills. The odd problems assigned have answers in the back of the book; these can be scanned after you have completed the assignment. You must show your work on all homework problems or no credit will be given. Use 8-1/2 x 11 paper with the problem number clearly indicated and the answer boxed, underlined or highlighted. In the upper right-hand corner write your name, your lecture time (9:00, 10:00, etc), the date, and an exercise number of page number to identify the assignment.

DVD’s:  The Intermediate Algebra course has a complete set of DVD’s. The DVD’s are located in the library and may be checked out.

HELP SESSIONS:  The math lab will post hours of operation starting at the beginning of the second week of school. These sessions are in the C.S.I. math lab (Shields 207L).

COURSE EVALUATION:  Evaluations are available online at http://evaluation.csi.edu