Math 108 Intermediate Algebra Course Syllabus
4 Credits, MW 3:30-5:15

Semester/year: Spring 2008
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Office Hours: M 2PM (in Math Lab), Tu& F 10AM, W 2 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.)

3. **Required Textbooks and Supplies:** *Intermediate Algebra*, 4th edition, Larson/Hostetler, Houghton/Mifflin, 2005; a small stapler for your homework; an inexpensive scientific calculator with log and exponential functions. **Graphing Calculators are NOT allowed.**

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**
   - Eight Regular Exams-100 points each
   - Homework and quiz scores – (averaged to contribute 100 points total)
   - 1 comprehensive final exam-200 points
   - TOTAL - 1100 points
   - Grades are determined by adding your point totals and dividing by 11.
     - 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.
   - **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. I intend to give all tests (except the final) in the Campus Testing Center, but I also reserve the right to give tests in class. If an emergency arises and you cannot take a test, please contact my office at C.S.I. If you must miss a test, that exam score will be replaced with your final exam score, weighted as one hundred points. If you miss two or more exams, only the first will be replaced.
   - **Assignment Policy:** Homework will be collected almost daily. I will not accept late homework, no exceptions. I will however drop your four lowest homework scores.
   - **Quiz Policy:** Quizzes will be given occasionally to encourage attendance. There will be no make-up quizzes. However, one quiz score will be dropped.

7. **Resources for Help:**
   a. Get to know others in the class and form a study group.
   b. Your instructor expects you to call or drop by.
   c. Intermediate Algebra DVDs are available in the library.
   d. 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. 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

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

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

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 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 208.734.9299 (TTY), or e-mail cmumford@csi.edu