

MATH 253: Intermediate Algebra

Ticket #15405, Spring 2012

INSTRUCTOR: Mrs. Jody (Cochrane) Cox

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OFFICE: SM 363

OFFICE PHONE: (949) 582 - 4556

DROP-IN OFFICE HOURS: (Additional office hours are available by appointment.)

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
12 – 1:30 pm	1 – 2 pm	12 – 1:30 pm	1 – 2 pm	By appointment only

MEETING TIMES: TTh 8:00 – 10:20 am, SM 303

WEB PAGE: www.saddleback.edu/faculty/jcochrane

TEXTBOOK: Intermediate Algebra, Seventh Edition, Aufmann/Barker/Lockwood, Houghton Mifflin 2008 (ISBN: 9780618803682) **OR** Multimedia Edition (ISBN: 9780547197975) **OR** the equivalent eTextbook (available at www.coursesmart.com/students for \$79.99)

CALCULATORS: You will need a scientific calculator for this class. I recommend the TI-30X IIS, the Casio FX-300ES or any other 2-line display calculator. Please bring your calculator to every class meeting. ***Graphing calculators and cell phones may not be used.*** Under no circumstances will you be allowed to share a calculator with a classmate during a quiz or exam.

PREREQUISITE: MATH 251 (Beginning Algebra) with a grade of at least “C” or the equivalent.

COURSE OVERVIEW: This 5-unit course covers topics including linear and quadratic equations, exponents, radicals, logarithms, series and sequences. (AA/AS General Education-Math Competency)

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

1. Demonstrate mastery of the computational skills necessary for them to succeed in a transfer-level math class.
2. Demonstrate the critical thinking skills necessary to set up and solve word problems at the appropriate difficulty level.
3. Demonstrate proficiency in graphing.

GRADING

Homework	30 points	519 – 580 points	90 – 100%	A
Quizzes	100 points	461 – 518 points	80 – 89%	B
Exams	300 points	403 – 460 points	70 – 79%	C
Final Exam	150 points	345 – 402 points	60 – 69%	D
TOTAL	580 points	0 – 344 points	0 – 59%	F

Your class grade is final. There will be no extra credit assignments offered in this class.

HOMEWORK

For each hour of class time, you should expect to spend **at least 2 hours** outside of class working homework problems, studying the lecture notes, and reading the textbook. To succeed in this class you *must do the homework!* Homework will be assigned during each class meeting and will be collected weekly (on most quiz and exam days). Each packet is worth 3 points (1 point is for correctness, and 2 points are for completion). Your ten highest homework scores will count toward your final grade. **Late homework will NOT be accepted for any reason.**

Please see the “Homework Guidelines” handout for specifics on how your homework assignments should be presented.

QUIZZES

A quiz worth 10 points will be given most weeks. There will be a total of 12 quizzes during the semester, and your two lowest scores will be dropped. **Make-up quizzes, early or late, will NOT be allowed for any reason.**

EXAMS

There will be 3 exams given during the semester, each worth 100 points. **No make-up exams will be given** unless you (a) have a documented, verified emergency; AND (b) notify me before or on the day of the exam. If you miss an exam without following these guidelines, you will receive a grade of zero on that exam.

FINAL EXAM

The final exam for this class is scheduled for Tuesday, May 15, from 8:00 – 10:00 am. The exam is worth 150 points and must be taken at the scheduled time. About two-thirds of the exam will cover the final chapters of the class and about one-third of the exam will cover selected review topics.

ACADEMIC HONOR CODE

Students are responsible for adhering to the Saddleback College Academic Honor Code, outlined in the Student Handbook. Cheating, in any form, **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**. A student found cheating on an exam or quiz will receive a zero on the exam or quiz, and

this score will not be dropped. A more detailed description of the Division of Math, Science & Engineering policy on cheating can be found on my website.

ATTENDANCE AND CLASSROOM POLICIES

Attendance: Attendance is taken daily. All students are expected to arrive for each class meeting on time and remain until the class ends. If you do miss class for any reason, you are responsible for material that was covered in your absence. **A student who has excessive absences (6 hours or more) may be dropped from the class without their permission.** In particular, I am **highly likely** to drop any student after 6 hours of missed class if **(a)** the student does not notify me requesting to stay in the class, and **(b)** the student's current exam average is lower than 70% or he/she misses an exam. Please note that if you *choose* to drop the class, it is your responsibility to do so.

Class Conduct:

1. Please do not talk in class as it is a distraction to other students. If you cannot refrain from talking, you will be asked to change seats or leave the class.
2. The use of *all* electronic devices (cell phones, MP3 players, iPods, laptop computers, etc.) is strictly prohibited during class time. A violation of this policy may result in your dismissal from lecture.
3. Respect your peers.
4. Eating and drinking is not permitted in the classroom with the exception of bottled water.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sunday, 1/22: Last day to drop with a refund
- Tuesday, 2/14: Last day to elect Pass/No Pass grading option; last day to drop without "W" (withdrawal) grade
- Friday, 4/6: Last day to drop with "W" grade*

**Note: If you are enrolled in the class after 4/6 you will receive a grade for the class.*

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Special Services (Disabled Student Programs and Services) is committed to serving students with disabilities enrolled at Saddleback College. Please contact the Special Services department for information:

DSPS Accommodated Testing Center

Location: Village 28

Phone Number: (949) 582-4424

All students who have been authorized for academic adjustments and/or accommodations should submit the proper forms to the instructor within the **first two weeks** of the course.

HOW TO SUCCEED IN THIS CLASS

1. In the book, read the material to be covered BEFORE class to become familiar with new words and concepts.
2. Attend every class meeting on time.
3. Participate during lecture by taking careful notes and asking questions.
4. Review the notes after class and practice the problems done as examples in class.
5. Try the homework problems before the next class meeting, making note of which problems you are unable to solve. **DO NOT** fall behind!
6. Ask questions as they arise about any material that is unclear, either in class, during my office hours, or in LAP.
7. Work to understand the “why” of math, not just the “how.” *Understanding*, not memorizing, is the goal.

EXTRA HELP

Free tutoring is available to students on a drop-in basis in the LAP (Learning Assistance Program) Center located in Village 8-05. The hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday. Please call (949) 582 – 4519 for more information, or visit their website at www.saddleback.edu/lap/.

RECOMMENDED MATH 253 RESOURCES

- Online Study Center* (Textbook-based):
http://college.cengage.com/mathematics/aufmann/intermediate_algebra_applications/7e/student_home.html
*Hint: “Navigate by Chapter” and try “Ace the Test!”
- Algebra-2-Go: www.saddleback.edu/faculty/lperez/algebra2go/
- Math TV: www.mathtv.com

COMPUTER LABS

There are computers available with internet access for students to use at no charge in SM 346/347, Village 4 and Village 8-05. There is a small printing fee.

CLASS TIMELINE

The schedule that follows is tentative. We will try to follow this schedule closely, but changes may occur. It is your responsibility to stay current with the class and be aware of such changes.