

Instructor: Curtis Kifer

Class meets in room S45 ; Monday through Thursday 2:30 p.m. – 3:35 p.m.

Email: kifercurtis@fhda.edu

Office Location: room E37

Office Hours: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thur (in E37) at 2:00 to 2:25 pm

Textbook: *Intermediate Algebra for College Students, 5th edition* by Blitzer.

Calculator: A scientific calculator that can compute exponential and logarithmic results is required.

There will be **no graphing calculator use on exams or quizzes**, so you will need a scientific calculator to use on exams and quizzes. No cell phone, smart phone, or tablet use during exams and quizzes.

Drop Policy: A student who stops coming to class and does not officially withdraw from the course will receive an 'F'.

Course structure:

- This is a course in intermediate algebra. We'll cover chapters 1.6, 1.7, 4.1- 4.3, 5.6, 6.1-6.4, 6.6-6.8, 7.1-7.6, 9.1-9.6, 10.1, 11.1-11.3
- There will often be a very short quiz exactly at the start of class, so always show up on time and prepared.
- Homework is to be completed using the online homework portal MyMathLab and is due before class starts.
- **Homework not turned in by the beginning of class is considered late and will be penalized 33.3%**
- Students will need to keep a composition notebook showing completed homework problems written out (just the scratch work is OK). Also, students are responsible for keeping track of their own homework, quiz, attendance, and midterm exam scores and keeping them displayed in the composition book from week to week. Occasionally and without announcement, the notebooks will be inspected and any student not having his or her notebook up to date as described above will be penalized 1 point from their final homework grade.

Scoring will be as follows:

- Homework: 30% (Completed online with MyMathLab only – fees apply for access to their website)
- Quizzes: 20%
- Midterm Exams : 30% (there will be 3 midterms)
- Final Exam: 20% (Participation in the final exam is required.)
- Participation: Measured by attendance. If you're not here, then you can't participate. **Each absence is 2 points off your final course grade; each tardy is 1 point off your final course grade.**

Final Exam is the last class meeting: Thursday, December 10, 2015 at 1:45-3:45 p.m.

- There will be **no make-up midterm exams**, but the **lowest midterm exam score will be dropped**.
- There will be **no make-up quizzes**. (none dropped)
- Late homework is penalized 33.3% (none dropped)
- There will be **no extra credit or make-up work offered**.

Your formal grade will be computed by the following scale:

A+ = 97-100% ; A = 93-96% ; A- = 90-92% ; B+ = 87-89% ; B = 83-86% ; B- = 80-82% ; C+ = 76-79% ; **Note that there is no 'C' or 'C-' offered** ; D+ = 66-75% ; D = 60-65% ; F = 0-59%

Course Rules:

- **Please silence your cell phones (not on vibrate!)** before entering class. Let me know ahead of time if you have reason to expect an emergency call.
- If you are having difficulty on an assignment, try to get help from me or from a classmate as quickly as possible; don't just leave it for the next class *Please come for help after class or in the tutoring center when you need it, instead of when your grade begins to slip!*

Academic Honesty:

The University considers honesty vital to its academic life. Therefore, it requires that students learn and abide by the standards of honesty expected in an academic community. In general, academic honesty requires that students: (1) submit work that is clearly and unmistakably their own; (2) properly represent information and give adequate acknowledgment to all sources that were used in the preparation of an assignment; (3) neither seek, accept, nor provide any assistance on tests, quizzes, and/or assignments unless explicitly permitted to do so by the instructor. **A student caught cheating on homework, quiz, or test can be dropped by the instructor.**

Drop; Withdrawal; Incomplete grade:

- **There is never an incomplete grade assigned.**
- It is the student's responsibility to be registered in the class on or before the **Saturday October 3** deadline for adding classes. As well, **should the student need to drop or withdrawal from the class, it is the student's responsibility to do so by Sunday October 4 --without a 'W' grade -- or Friday November 13-- with a 'W' grade.**

Learning Objectives

After completing the course, the student will be able to:

1. Evaluate real-world situations and distinguish between and apply exponential, logarithmic, rational, and discrete function models appropriately.
2. Analyze, interpret, and communicate results of exponential, logarithmic, rational, and discrete models in a logical manner from four points of view – visual, formula, numerical, and written.