Math 115 – Elementary Algebra   Winter 2015

Instructor: Professor Forkeotes

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Class: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00am – 1:25pm, MATH 1415

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Office Hours: Mon. – Thurs. 1:30pm-2:00pm and by appointment.

Text: *Elementary Algebra*, by Sullivan/Struve/Mazzarella, 3rd edition, Pearson Publishers. The text (new paperback from the bookstore, ISBN-10:1-269-33981-8) includes a student access code for MyMathLab, an online homework system offered by Pearson Education. If you purchase the book without an access code, you will need to purchase the access code separately from the bookstore or online at the website www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com with a credit card. For registration, the **course id is forkeotes53948. You will need the course id if you purchase the access code online at the website above. The access code is required in order to do the online homework. The text is optional since the e-text is included in the online homework system.**

If you need help paying for books and other college expenses,
call the Financial Aid Office at
(818) 719-6428
or see them in the College Services Building
http://www.piercecollege.edu/offices/financial_aid

Course Description: This course is designed to prepare the student for additional work in intermediate algebra and geometry. The following topics will be covered through lecture, group work, computer instruction and class participation.

- operations with algebraic expressions
- solutions of linear equations and linear inequalities with applications
- graphing linear equations and inequalities
- solutions to systems of linear equations and inequalities
- practical problems in one and two variables
- polynomials and exponents
- factoring polynomials
- proportion and rational expressions
- solutions to quadratic equations
- roots and radicals

The above topics will be covered in Chapters 2 through 9 in the text.

Method of Evaluation: Homework (online) will be assigned after each meeting, due by midnight every Sunday. Homework will **not** be accessible for submission after the due date. **Homework** will be assigned through the website www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com. In addition to the online homework, in-class exams will be given weekly. **There are NO make-ups on homework or exams.** There will be **three exams and one final exam given in class. There are NO make-up exams.** For each exam you will need a **scantron form #882E, #2 pencil, and scientific calculator** (no cell phones, graphing calculators, iPods, tablets, computers or CD players, are allowed to be used in the classroom at any time, and must be **shut off** during class). The in-class exams will be a reflection of the material covered in class and the online homework. The **last day of class is Thurs. Feb. 5th 2015. The final exam is cumulative and scheduled on the last day of class Thurs. Feb. 5, 2015, 9:00am – 1:25pm.** Students are responsible for all material discussed in class and from the homework. It is the student's responsibility to get any missed class lectures, announcements, etc. from a classmate. Absence from class does not excuse the student from this responsibility. It is expected that you are on time to class, and that you stay for the entire class period. I strongly encourage you to form study groups outside of class, if possible. Sometimes the best way to learn the material is to discuss it with other classmates. Please exchange contact information with a few of your classmates. If you have questions after attempting the homework, please ask in class or see me outside of class or send me an e-mail. Do not let time slide by without a good grasp of the material.

Grading System:

	A 90-100, B 80-89
Exams (3): 60%	**C 70-79, D 60-69**
Online Homework: 20%	**F ↓59**
Final exam: 20%	

Note: You must make at least 60% on your final exam in order to get an A, B or C for the course grade. If not, you will receive a D or Fail.

Tutoring: You can seek math tutoring in the CAS (center for academic success)
Hours: (to be announced)

Computer Work: You will be working on any PC or Mac computer which is connected to the internet (at home or at the college). In each assigned chapter you will complete all **homework** that has been assigned through the program. All results will be monitored and logged via the internet on a server maintained by the Pearson Publishing Company. I will access this data to monitor your progress and to determine the computer portion of your grade. If for some reason your computer at home does not work, then you are required to work at Pierce while your system is down.

If you are not working online by midnight Wed. Jan. 7, you will be dropped from the class.

Installation of MyMathLab Software: The following steps are included in detail in your Student User Manual:

1) Go to www.pearsonmylabandmasteing.com
2) Click on support.
3) This will bring you to the MyMathLab Installation Wizard screen. From the drop down menu, select the author and textbook for this course. (Elementary Algebra, by Sullivan/Struve/Mazzarella, 2nd ed.)
4) Click on submit and follow the directions on the pop-up window. This will guide you through the installation of all the necessary plug-ins (Math XL Player, RealOne Player, Adobe Acrobat Reader, Macromedia Shockwave and Flash)
5) If you have any technical problems or questions, **contact tech support**: 1-800-677-6337. All times listed below are PST:
   Mon.-Fri. 6AM-3PM
   Email: techsprt@aw.com
6) The computers on campus (Computer Lab1512, and CAS) have all of the necessary plug-ins.

Online Homework:

1) Once you log on (www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com) and get to the main course page, click on the course name listed under "Courses you are taking"
2) The first screen you will see is the **Announcements** page. If you have not already gone through the MyMathLab Installation Wizard, click on the link to do so. On the Announcements page you will also have a link to the Math Tutor Center, which is a toll free number you can call to get live help from a college instructor (open from 2pm – 9pm PST).
3) You will be using MyMathLab, for all "Homework". When you click on **Homework** you will see a link to do your homework assignments. Each problem has both a "View an Example" and a "Help Me Solve This". Some problems include a "Lecture Video" or an "Animation" that offer additional help. You can attempt each problem as many times as you want, and once you are completed, click on "Submit Homework". By doing this your score will be recorded in the instructor's grade book.
4) You may type in numbers from your keyboard, and if you need any math symbols, a palette is available on the screen.
6) The "Student's Solutions Manual" is available by clicking on "Student Solution Manual". This includes solutions for every other odd exercise in the textbook. It is recommended that you do the odd numbered exercises in the textbook for practice.
7) The online homework assignments are **due by the following Sunday at 11:59pm.** I will be periodically checking your computer work and grades. Since the computer work is **20% of your course grade**, it is important that you keep up with the homework. **The homework will not be accessible after the due date, however you can access it for review.**

Upon successful completion of Elementary Algebra (Math 115) the student will be able to:

1) Analyze, construct, and interpret graphs of linear equations and apply these abilities to interpret graphs in the real-world.

2) Model and solve real-world mathematics problems stated in words (word problems) whose solutions require formulating and solving either a linear equation with one variable, or a system of two linear equations in two variables.

3) Solve linear and quadratic equations in one variable, and solve equations containing algebraic fractions in one variable.

Drop Policy:
Any student who has stopped attending class **has the responsibility to officially drop** the class on-line. The instructor has the prerogative to drop any student with unexcused absences equaling one week's worth of class time at any time throughout the semester up to the drop deadline, however the student must **never assume** the instructor will do so. Tardiness or early dismissal from class is regarded as an absence. Failure for the student to officially drop may result in the student receiving a grade of **F** for the course. The last day to drop classes online **without a grade of "W"** is **Wed. Jan. 7, 2015**, and the last day to drop classes **with a grade of "W"** is **Sat. Jan.31, 2015**.

Attendance Regulations:
Students are expected to be in class on time and to remain for the entire class period. Medical appointments, work, job interviews, childcare responsibilities, etc. should be arranged so as not to occur during class time. Please do not make requests for exceptions.

Any student who has unexcused absences equaling one week's worth of class time prior to census date may be excluded. By the last day, **Wed.Jan. 7, 2015,** to add the class, students are responsible to inform the instructor of any anticipated absences due to observance of major religious holidays so that alternative arrangements may be made. Failure to do so may result in an inability to make other arrangements or a lower grade.

Holidays – No class

Martin Luther King Jr. Day, college closed   Mon. Jan. 19

Disability Awareness:
Students with disabilities, whether physical, learning, or psychological, who believe that they may need accommodations in this class, are encouraged to contact Special Services as soon as possible to ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. **Authorization, based on verification of disability, is required before any accommodation can be made.** The phone number for Special Services is 818.719.6430 and they are located in the Student Services Building, #4800.

Student Dishonesty:
Students who are in any way involved with cheating on an exam will be given a "0%" for the exam, and an Academic Dishonesty Report will be filed with the Dean of Student Services.

The instructor has the prerogative to amend this syllabus at any time during the semester.