

ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA - MATH 42, SECTION #59188 (4 UNITS)

ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA SUPPORT - MATH 42-S, SECTION #59189 (1 UNIT CO-REQUISITE)

Math 42 - MTWTh from 8:00 am - 10:50 am in building 21, room 157
Math 42S - MTWTh from 11:00 am - 11:50 am in building 21, room 157

INSTRUCTOR



Name	STEPHEN TONER
Office	Bldg. 31 (Science), office 51 (north side, second from end)
Phone	760.245.4271 ext. 2770
Email	Stephen.Toner@vvc.edu (see email policy on last page)
Websites	www.stevetoner.com, www.MathVideos.Net
Office Hours	By appointment only during winter term

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course covers a review of arithmetic operations with whole, decimal, fractional and signed numbers, exponential notation, percentages, and order of operations. Algebraic expressions, solving and graphing linear equations and inequalities, polynomial operations and polynomial factoring, rational and radical expressions and equations, quadratic equations and solutions to quadratic equations are also covered. The support course provides additional support and review of key concepts in Elementary Algebra.

PREREQUISITES

Math 12 with a grade of “C” or better, or by eligibility by placement on the VVC assessment exam.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course the student can:

1. Graph linear equations and inequalities.
2. Factor polynomials.
3. Solve a system of linear equations.
4. Simplify rational expressions.
5. Solve first and/or second-degree polynomial equation
6. Translate words into algebraic expressions and equations.

WHAT IS MATH 42-S?

Math 42-S (started in Fall 2016) is a co-requisite course to Math 42, meant to support you through the Math 42 curriculum. While the intent is to provide extra practice and instruction for key concepts in a slightly different way, it also focuses on study skills, educational strategies and activities to support you as a student. We hope to show you that math can be fun, while at the same time it may require you to struggle a bit, or even think “outside the box”.

This course will be evolving over the next few semesters and may seem a bit strange at times; I only ask that you go with the flow and give it your best. Since Math 42-S is one of the five units for this combined course, I have made the 42-S assignments worth 15% of your overall grade. You will receive some assignments for each “part” of the class.

While these courses will show up separately on your transcript, you will receive the same grade for both Math 42 and Math 42-S. Your grade will be calculated as outlined on page 3 of this syllabus.

TEXTBOOK / MATERIALS



INTRODUCTORY ALGEBRA, 3RD EDITION, BY MILLER/O'NEILL/HYDE.

Online access at Connect Math, accessed through Blackboard. You will need an access code. You can purchase the access code directly from the website (\$104.00 with optional \$15 “print upgrade” mailed directly to your home), or from the Rams bookstore (\$142.50 for the access code only), or packaged with a loose-leaf version of the text (\$178.08).



Online access is required and includes complete digital access to your e-books, videos and homework. Your course Code is **WXTDY-L9KHC**. The 2-week financial aid code for this course is **975FD-C72B1-729FE-C1AB0** (That’s a zero, not the letter O, in the third group). Note that it **does not** give add an additional two weeks to your course. You will need to extend your account BEFORE the end of the two weeks. (See the last page of the syllabus for further instructions.)

Please refer to the welcome letter for detailed step-by-step directions on accessing and paying for the online access. If you have used Connect Math in the past, log into your account and go to the Edit Profile area in the top right. Choose Change Course Code and enter the course code **WXTDY-L9KHC**. You will still need to purchase access for Math 42.

STUDENT ACCESS

Students with special needs are encouraged to meet with instructors to discuss the opportunity for academic accommodation and be referred to disabled student program and services per Administrative Procedure (AP 3440).

If you have a learning disability or physical need that requires special accommodation, please advise me prior to 01-09-17 (the start of the second week of class).

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

MATH SUCCESS CENTER

You are strongly encouraged to get tutoring or go to the Math Success Center, study in groups, and see me for help outside of class. All of these are free! Students that get help outside of class are typically much more successful than those that do not.

The Winter 2017 Math Success Center hours are:

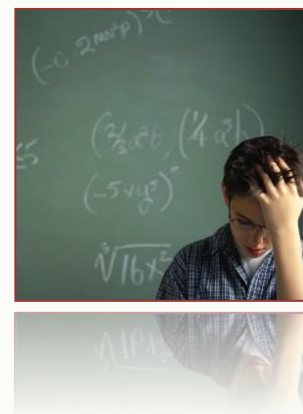
Monday-Thursday	9:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Fridays	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

The Math Lab is located in building 21 (the ATC), room 146.

There will also be support workshops in the Math Workshop room, building 21, room 145.

The list of times will be shared with you in class. They can also be found online at

http://www.vvc.edu/academic/mathematics/math_workshops.shtml.



PHILOSOPHY

There is a general rule that for college classes, one should spend 2 hours working outside of class for every hour spent in the classroom. For math classes, that should be raised to 3 hours in most cases. **Theoretically**, since we are meeting for roughly 16 hours per week on campus, you should be spending over 30 hours per week working on homework outside of class! While that time commitment might seem rough, anything short of this is undermining your chances of success. **This course is going to teach you to organize your time, by necessity. If you tend to procrastinate, you will find that you will not likely meet all the deadlines.** Past students suggest that you organize your time very carefully.

HOMWORK

PRACTICE is a vital component in learning mathematics. Part of your assigned homework is at the Connect Math website. You may take these homework assignment as many times as you wish, and I will only count the highest grade for each. The other homework assignments will be on paper and due on the day of each chapter test. Online chapter review homework deadlines are posted in Connect Math. Please keep a calendar of all deadlines, as procrastination is your worst enemy! For each chapter's homework, the "paper" homework will count as 2/3 of the chapter points and the online portion will count as 1/3 of the points.

CHAPTER TESTS

We will have 9 chapter tests and one final exam. I will drop your lowest-scoring chapter exam at the end of the term. No calculators, notes or "cheat sheets" may be used on any of the chapter tests.

Test Corrections: Please review the online portions of your exams in the grade book in Connect Math after the exam deadline. You may re-work any problems you missed and earn up to half of the deducted points back! For paper exams, you will need to re-work your problems on a separate paper and submit the new write-ups along with your original exam.

For each exam, turn in a neatly labeled set of work showing how you would correctly solve each question you missed. Your work must be shown to receive credit. The **problem numbers and work** should be easily to identify. If you have made obvious mistakes (such as typing in the wrong variable, or mistakenly typing in a comma), state so and I will review those problems for partial (or full) credit back.

Test corrections will count as a 42-S assignment and will be due at the **start** of class the next class day after each exam. These will be turned in on paper, even though the tests are online.

NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED!

In this technical age, there is no reason for late work. All work must be submitted by its deadline to receive credit, even if you are absent or out of town. Work that is not completed automatically in Connect Math or collected in class should be submitted as a **single pdf file**. I will **NOT** accept multiple files or zip folders.

If you don't have a scanner at home or access to one, there is a FREE app available on Google Play and iTunes called **CamScanner**. It is a free app, and if you register using your VVC email address ending in .edu, you will be automatically upgraded to the full version which allows you to create files without any watermarks.

CamScanner allows you to take a picture of each page of your document, crop them and adjust the clarity, and then save them as a single pdf file or email the final file to yourself. You can then email it to me using the email conventions found on page 5 of this syllabus.

GRADING



It is your responsibility to be aware of your grade. Your final grade will be determined as follows:

Chapter Tests	30% of your grade
Homework	20% of your grade
Math 42-S Assignments	15% of your grade
Comprehensive Final Exam (see page 6)	35% of your grade

A	90.00% - 100%
B	80.00% - 89.99%
C	70.00% - 79.99%
D	65.00% - 69.99%
F	0% - 64.99%

Your official grade is located in the Grade Book at Connect Math.

CALCULATORS

Calculators are not allowed at any time in this course, unless prompted online through Connect. Most of the homework problems have been chosen such that a calculator really should not be needed at all. While I cannot monitor what you are doing at home, you are on your academic honor not to be using one. If it is discovered that you are using one, it will be considered academic dishonesty and you will be turned in to the Office of Student Services for academic dishonesty.

ATTENDANCE

YOU ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND CLASS EVERY DAY. AFTER 4 HOURS OF ABSENCE (1 CLASS), YOU MAY BE DROPPED FROM THIS CLASS. TWO DAYS OF ABSENCE IN A ROW DURING A SHORT TERM CLASS WILL LIKELY GET YOU EXTREMELY LOST. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP YOUR ENROLLMENT STATUS CURRENT. YOU RISK AN "F" IF YOU STOP ATTENDING WITHOUT OFFICIALLY WITHDRAWING. DO NOT BRING FRIENDS OR CHILDREN TO CLASS. PLEASE PUT AWAY ALL MP3 PLAYERS AND TURN ANY CELL PHONES TO SILENT MODE DURING CLASS TIME. NO CELL PHONES WILL BE ALLOWED ON YOUR DESK DURING EXAMS. WE ARE HERE TO LEARN; PLEASE REFRAIN FROM TEXTING DURING CLASS.

POLICIES



SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY

While students may work together on the researching of any assignment, it is expected that each of their writing assignments reflect substantial individual effort. Any student who commits plagiarism or is found to have cheated on a scheduled exam is subject to a zero score for that specific exam which may result in a term grade of "F" for this course. Students should be aware that cases of cheating and/or plagiarism will be forwarded to the appropriate college administrator promptly. The college administration has a range of sanctions that may be imposed including, but not limited to, academic suspension or expulsion from the college.

IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT TECHNOLOGY



This course requires reliable computer access. Please ensure your computer is in good repair at the start of the semester. It is suggested that before any major assignments, you re-start your browser to clear any memory caches which may cause issues. Java software tends to "junk up" your browser at times. While documented outages may occur, it is the student's responsibility to meet all deadlines in this course. If your internet service at home is unreliable, do not wait until the last day to start assignments. There are plenty of computers that you are able to use on campus.

At the start of the semester, please go to www.connectmath.com/downloads and install the latest versions of many key plug-ins and movie players.

If you start to experience strange things, like only portions of problems showing on your screen, re-start your browser.

A **common complaint** is "The computer marked me incorrect, but I got it right." If this is the case, I suggest you do the following: Submit the assignment (you can always go back in), and then go into the grade book and compare your answer with what the computer shows to be the answer. You can often find the error, or learn from your mistake that way.

The Connect Math Tech Support phone number is 1-949-390-2095. They are closed on Saturdays.

VVC CALENDAR



Jan 3	First Day of classes
Jan 8	Last day to drop without receiving a "W" grade
Jan 16	Campus closed - Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
Jan 19	Last day to drop and receive a "W" grade
Feb 9	Last day of class

OUR CLASS SCHEDULE

M	01.02	Campus closed - New Year's	M	01.23	5.5-5.7, 6.1
T	01.03	Intro, 1.1-1.6	T	01.24	6.2-6.4
W	01.04	2.1-2.3	W	01.25	Test Chapter 5; 6.5-6.8
Th	01.05	2.4-2.6	Th	01.26	7.1-7.4
M	01.09	Test Chapter 1; 2.7-2.8, review	M	01.30	Test Chapter 6; 7.5-7.6
T	01.10	3.1-3.3	T	01.31	7.7-7.8, 8.1
W	01.11	Test Chapter 2; 3.4-3.5	W	02.01	8.2-8.5
Th	01.12	3.6, 4.1-4.3	Th	02.02	Test Chapter 7; 8.6, 9.1
M	01.16	Campus closed - Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday	M	02.06	9.2-9.3
T	01.17	4.4-4.5, Review	T	02.07	Test Chapter 8; Review
W	01.18	Test Chapter 3; Review Ch 4	W	02.08	Test Chapter 9; Review
Th	01.19	5.1-5.4; Test Chapter 4	Th	02.09	Final Exam (covers the entire class)

Prof. Toner's Email Policy

I do my best to answer all emails as quickly as I can, but sometimes it can be difficult. You would not believe how many unidentified emails I receive on a regular basis... as a result, I have established this policy to help me provide you with the quickest, most reliable response.

Send all emails to Stephen.Toner@vvc.edu.

Please read carefully the set of rules applicable to all emails you may send me.

The subject line (title) of the email must include the following information:

1. Your first and last name
2. Your class name, meeting days and times
3. The reason for the email

Good Examples:

- Jessica Jones, Math 90 online, about my chapter 3 test
- Jessica Jones, Math 12 TTh at 8 am, family emergency

Do not email asking questions that can be answered by reading the syllabus. For example, please do NOT email me questions such as "Can I take the test at a later date?" or "When is the final exam?"

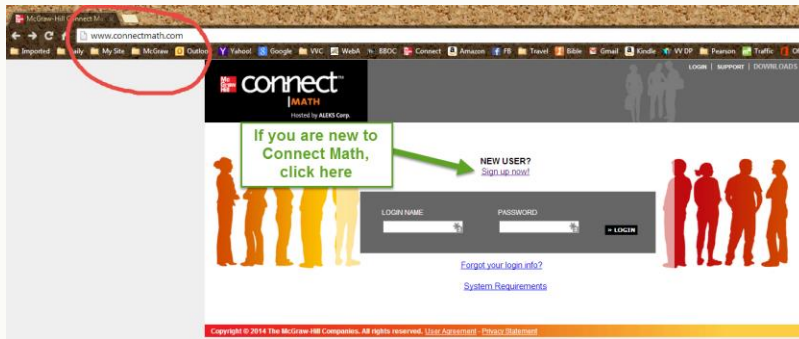
Write emails using **proper grammar, punctuation, and capitalization**. In other words, do not text me.

Emails that don't follow these guidelines may not be answered quickly.

Prof. Toner's Schedule

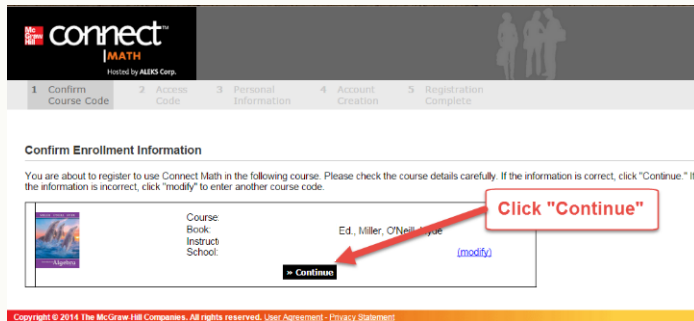
I make every effort to respond to emails as quickly as I can, however this winter I am in the classroom every day from 8:00 until 5:30 pm. I will do my best to check my email every morning and evening on the weekends.

To register for Connect Math, you will need to follow these steps:



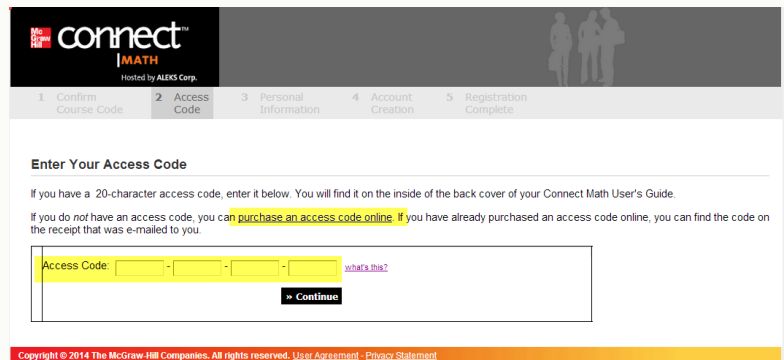
On the next screen, you will need to enter our course code: **WXTDY-L9KHC**. This will get you to our class.

On the next screen, verify you have the course, and then click “continue”.



On the next screen, you will have three options:

1. If you have the \$104 now, click on “purchase an online code online” for the least expensive option.
2. If you have purchased the access code at the bookstore, enter it into the boxes to gain your access.
3. If you will have one of the above in the next couple of weeks, but not right now, then...



There is a two-week **free** access code to get into Connect Math. It is **975FD-C72B1-729FE-C1AB0** (That’s a zero, not the letter O, in the last group). Note that it does not give add an additional two weeks to your course. You will need to extend your account **BEFORE** the end of the two weeks.