

Greetings, everyone!

We officially begin our 8-week Math 50 Online class on Monday, June 22nd, but I will be opening the course up on Monday, June 15th for those of you who wish to get an early start! I hope you have cleared your agenda for the next couple of months, as you will certainly be busy!

While taking an online class is convenient for your schedule, the same dedication is necessary as for an on-site class. If this class were on-site during a 16-week semester, you would be spending about 5 hours per week in class and travel to class, plus another 6-8 hours per week doing homework. That would amount to about 11-13 hours per week to be successful. This is a summer class which is only 8 weeks long, meaning you really should be spending about 24 hours per week to be successful. **Basically, this means you should schedule an average of 4 hours per day, 6 days a week.** Anything short of that is undermining your classroom experience and chances of success. (I understand there will be some days where you spend 7-8 hours per day, while others you only work for about an hour.) **This is a full course, not a shortened "summer version".**

Do not plan on spending just 30 minutes per day in this class; there is **no way** you will be successful. Every time I take a survey of my students and asked them for advice that they would give to future students, they overwhelmingly suggested you "stay on top of your assignments". They also suggested you "take notes from the video lectures" and "keep working [on things] until you get it".

OK, have I scared you? That is not my intent. I just want to give you all a dose of reality right up front.

Enough chatter. Here are some things you need to know:

We will use Blackboard this semester, so you will need to log in there as your starting point. PLEASE make sure that your correct email address is in your Blackboard profile, as I will usually be sending out emails and announcements through the Blackboard system. Blackboard will be your starting point for the course. This is where announcements will be posted and where the discussion boards are located. There will also be links to two other sites, one to MathVideos.Net, where I have your lecture videos posted, and the other to ConnectMath.com, where you will do your homework and take exams.

If you want to get started a little early in our class, I will be opening up Blackboard and Connect Math on Monday, June 15th.

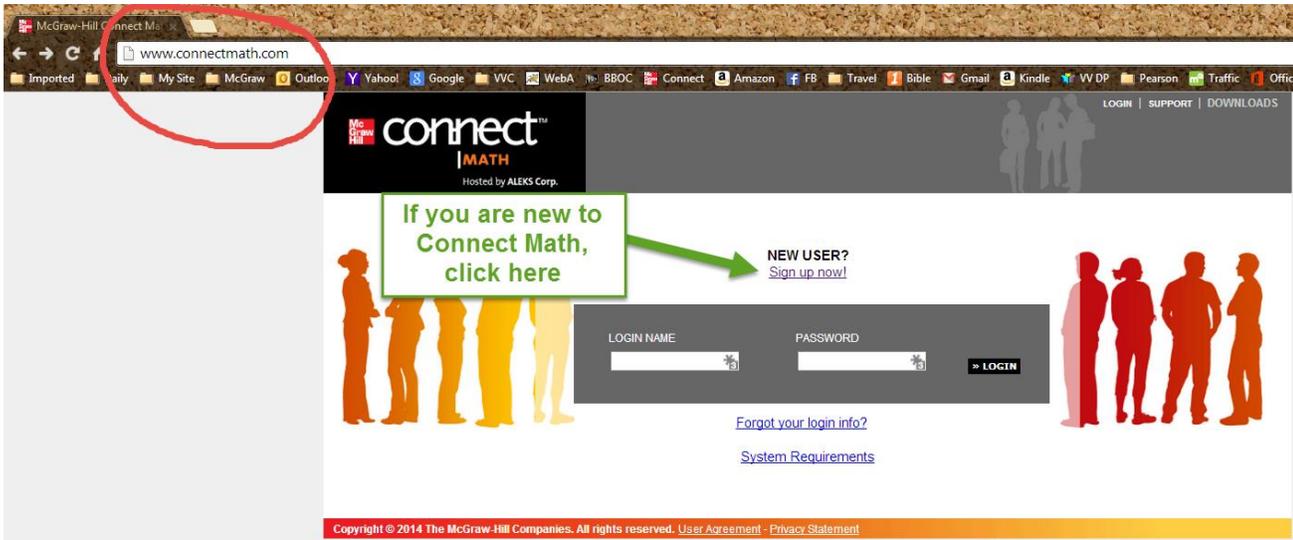
You will need to purchase access to Connect Math. I know that everyone likes an inexpensive used book, but they do not include the access to the online content which is mandatory for the course. There are basically two options:

1. Purchase access directly from www.connectmath.com for \$95. This will include your ebook. At the time of registration, you will have the option to add in an optional loose leaf version of the text which they will mail you directly.

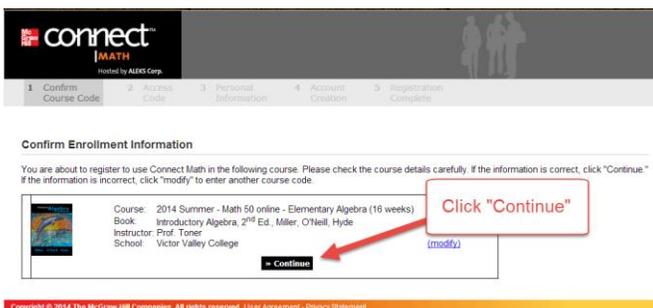
2. Purchase an online access code through the Rams Bookstore on campus for \$109.70, plus tax. This is the same as option 1, but available through the bookstore, and includes a paper version of the text in addition to your online access and ebook.

If you go online to try to find a cheaper deal on a text, it is unlikely to include the access code for Connect Math, and you would still need to purchase it, so please just bite the bullet and purchase the access to begin with.

To register for Connect Math, you will need to follow these steps (AFTER JUNE 15th).



On the next screen, you will need to enter our course code: **3JFVM-MHGGK**. This will get you to our class.



On the next screen, verify you have this course, and then click "continue".

On the next screen, you will have three options:

1. If you have the \$95 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...

connect
MATH
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1 Confirm Course Code 2 Access Code 3 Personal Information 4 Account Creation 5 Registration Complete

Enter Your Access Code

If you have a 20-character access code, enter it below. You will find it on the inside of the back cover of your Connect Math User's Guide.

If you do not have an access code, you can [purchase an access code online](#). If you have already purchased an access code online, you can find the code on the receipt that was e-mailed to you.

Access Code: [] - [] - [] - [] [what's this?](#)

» Continue

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There is a two-week free access code to get into Connect Math. It is 6B03C-6AB9C-8BF75-111EC. (That is a zero in the first 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.

FINAL EXAM

There **WILL** be an **on-campus (or proctored) final exam** for this course; you will have your choice of the following times to take it (do not send time requests now):

- Wednesday, August 12th from 6:30-8:20 pm;
- Thursday, August 13th from 10:00-11:50 am;
- If you live out of town, I am willing to discuss finding a proctor to administer the exam, which would need to be completed by noon on Thursday, August 13th. Please see your syllabus for further details.

I look forward to "meeting" you all online! **I've set BlackBoard and Connect Math to open up on Monday, June 15th, 2015, in case you want to get an early start, but I will not be aggressively posting until the start date on June 22nd.**

Prof. Toner

*****Your first "**Response Required Assignment**" is to send me an email (stephen.toner@vvc.edu). Please give the email the title "RRA#1". In the body of the message, please write (or copy): **"I have received the welcome letter and have read the syllabus for Math 42. I understand that there will be an on-campus (or proctored) final exam for this class."** That's it... simply send me a message for your first RRA (Response Required Assignment). All you have to do is copy-and-paste the highlighted sentences above and send it to me. **Please send me this to me by 9 pm on Thursday, June 25th to receive full credit.** After that, you will lose 2 points per day (or fraction thereof) for each day it is late.

Oh, yeah... make sure that you **put your name in the email**. You wouldn't believe how many emails I get from unidentified students!