

ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA

MATH 50 ONLINE, SUMMER 2014
SECTIONS #52489, 52507 & 52509 (4 UNITS)

INSTRUCTOR



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Office Hours No office hours during the summer session.

COURSE

DESCRIPTION

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.

PREREQUISITES

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

TEXTBOOK / MATERIALS



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

Online access at <http://www.connectmath.com/>. You will need an access code. You can purchase the Connect Plus access code directly from the Connect Math website (\$95) or from the Rams bookstore for \$126.75 (or packaged with a paper version of the text for \$146.60).

Online access is required and includes complete digital access to your e-books, videos and homework.

Your course Code is **3JFVM-MHGGK**. You may begin the registration process at Connect Math beginning June 15th, but the class will not officially begin until Monday, June 22nd.

The 2-week financial aid code for this course 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.

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 **3JFVM-MHGGK**. You will still need to purchase access for Math 42.

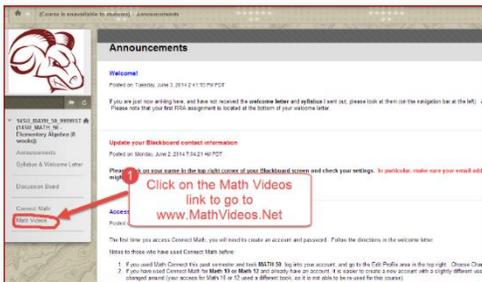
HOMEWORK

Practice is a vital component in learning mathematics. I have prepared lecture videos for you to teach you all the material. This is your primary source of learning (see directions below). There are also author-produced videos and animations that can be found at the Connect Math website in the Resources area. You will save valuable time by watching my lecture videos for each section prior to starting the homework assignments.

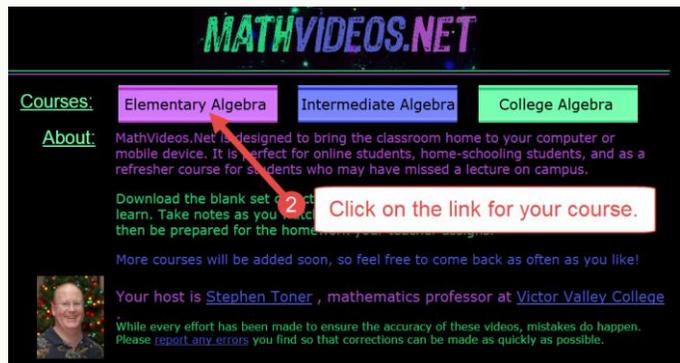
You may take each homework assignment as many times as you wish, and I will only count the highest grade for each assignment. I will **drop** the lowest 6 scores from your homework assignments at the end of the term before calculating your final grade.

LECTURE NOTES AND VIDEOS

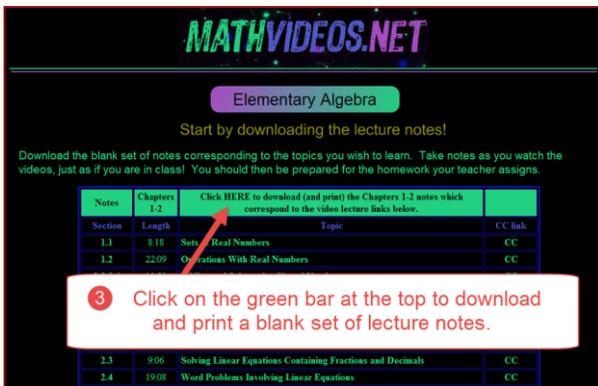
First, you will want to go to www.mathvideos.net, my video website, and click on the Elementary Algebra button. Above each pair of chapters, there is a link to "download blank lecture notes". Please download and print these out. For each lecture in the table, there is a video lecture I have created to teach you the material. **Watch the videos and take lecture notes just as if you were in class. This is an essential part of the class.**



Within Blackboard, click on the Math Videos link in the Navigation panel.



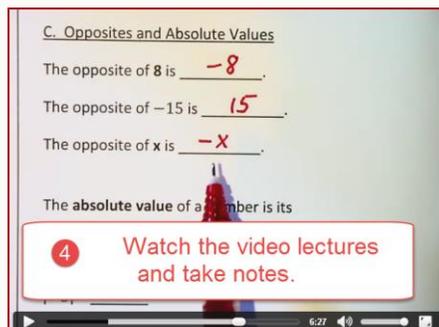
Enter your class at www.MathVideos.Net.



Download a blank set of lecture notes for the current chapters.

Notes	Chapters 1-2	Click HERE to download (and print) the Chapters 1-2 notes which correspond to the video lecture links below.		CC link
Section	Length	Topic		
1.1	8:18	Sets of Real Numbers		CC
1.2	22:09	Operations With Real Numbers		CC
1.3-1.4	11:59	Adding and Subtracting Signed Numbers		CC
1.5	16:30	Multiplying and Dividing Signed Numbers		CC
2.1	16:30	Solving Linear Equations: One-Step Linear Equations		CC
2.2	16:30	Solving Linear Equations: Two-Step Linear Equations		CC
2.3	16:30	Solving Linear Equations: Multi-Step Linear Equations		CC
2.4	19:08	Word Problems Involving Linear Equations		CC
2.5	12:36	Percent Sentence Problems		CC
2.6	16:47	Solving Literal Equations; Word Problems Involving Linear Equations and Geometry		CC
2.7	25:40	Mixture Problems; Motion Problems		CC

Click on the title of each video to watch each video normally. Click on the closed-caption links to watch them closed-captioned (might not work with Internet Explorer).



Watch the videos and take notes, just as in class, except that you now can hit pause and rewind!

CHAPTER TESTS

We will have 9 chapter tests and one proctored final exam. For each chapter test, you will only be allowed ONE 90-minute attempt. 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.

Sometimes you make minor errors on an exam and the computer marks the problem as incorrect. If you have made obvious mistakes (such as typing in the wrong variable, or mistakenly typing in a comma), you may request partial credit back on those problems. After the deadline for any chapter exam, you will be able to view your exam in the grade book. Send me an email prior to the next test's deadline with a list of the problems you wish me to check along with a short explanation. I will then look at the problem and determine whether additional credit is warranted.

DISCUSSION BOARD & RESPONSE REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS (RRA'S)

You are expected to participate in each of the weekly discussion boards which will be located at the Blackboard site for the class. Each week you should post in the discussion board forum as directed. Each of your posts should **contribute** to the conversation and not just be a short "LOL" type of post. Most of the boards (other than the social forum) will be set up so that you cannot view your classmates' posts until you have posted yourself. Please **read the prompts carefully**; some weeks you will need to respond to one of your classmates' posts in addition to your own post. Discussion Board posts will be due each Saturday night.

There will be four short RRA's (Response Required Assignment) this term. These will be administrative in nature. The Discussion Board and RRA assignments will be counted as homework scores.

GRADING

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

Online Chapter Tests	30% of your grade
Online Homework	30% of your grade
Comprehensive Final Exam (see page 6)	40% of your grade



A	88.00% - 100%
B	78.00% - 87.99%
C	70.00% - 77.99%
D	65.00% - 69.99%
F	0% - 64.99%

Your official grade is located in the Grade Book at Connect Math, not within Blackboard.

PHILOSOPHY

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 term, 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 same 11-13 hours per week needs to be spent online to be successful. Since this is an 8-week class, you should be doing twice that amount. **Basically, this means you should schedule a minimum of 4 hours per day, 6 days a week.** 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 online students suggest that you organize your time very carefully for this class.

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.

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.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT YOU ARE ALONE WHEN TAKING ANY CHAPTER EXAMS. YOU MAY NOT SEEK ANYONE'S ASSISTANCE DURING THESE EXAMS. THERE SHOULD NOT BE ANYONE LOOKING OVER YOUR SHOULDER HELPING, PROMPTING, OR CORRECTING YOU. IT IS ALSO ASSUMED THAT YOU ARE TAKING ALL EXAMS WITHOUT THE AID OF A CALCULATOR.

ATTENDANCE

If this were an on-campus class, you would be required to attend class every day. After 4 hours of absence, you could be dropped from this class. As an online class, the same rules need to hold. **If you do not log in to Connect for 5 straight days for this summer class, you will be considered to be excessively absent and may be dropped. You may think this sounds extreme, but it is what is needed in a short term class like this. I may travel a little during the summer, too, but I will always be at a hotel that has wifi service and I will always be checking in regularly myself.**

It is your responsibility to keep your enrollment status current. You risk an "F" if you stop attending without officially withdrawing.

Class attendance is not a measure of performance or proficiency. Whether a student is just physically present in the class is not a valid basis for grading. Reference Title 5 Section 55002 of the California Code of Regulations: (A) Grading Policy. The course provides for measurement of student performance in terms of stated course objectives and culminates in a formal, permanently recorded grade based upon uniform standards in accordance with section 55758 of this Division. The grade is based on demonstrated proficiency in the subject matter and the ability to demonstrate that proficiency, at least in part, by means of written expression that may include essays, or, in courses where the curriculum committee deems them to be appropriate, by problem solving exercises or skills demonstrations by students.

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 06-22-15 (the start of the second week of class).

MISCELLANY

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

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.

Regular Math Success Center hours are:

Monday-Thursday 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

The Math Success Center is located in building 42 (the Academic Commons). The lab will only have student tutors for the first 6 weeks of class. During the last two weeks of class, only the instructional assistant will be on duty.



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.

IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT TECHNOLOGY



This is an online course, requiring 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, the computer be re-booted to clear any memory caches which may cause issues while testing. While documented outages may occur, it is the student's responsibility to meet all deadlines in this course.

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.

It is highly recommended that you re-start your browser before taking any exams in order to clear your computer's cache. If you start to experience strange things, like only portions of problems showing on your screen, re-start your browser.

Part of taking an online class is having a computer that is in working order with a decent internet connection. While outages do occur, you can minimize any effects on your progress by always completing assignments ahead of their due dates.

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 lists. You can often find the error, or learn from your mistake that way.

The schedule for the term is listed below. I **highly suggest** you work as far ahead of the schedule as you can, just in case you have emergencies in your personal life, or in case you run into material which you find rather challenging.

OUR CLASS SCHEDULE

Week	Dates	Section	Deadline
0		Early Start...	Connect Math course becomes available on Monday, June 15th, 2014
1	06.22 - 06.27	Ch. 1; Ch. 2a	All HW and Chapter Test for Ch. 1 must be submitted by 11:59 PM on Sunday, June 28
2	06.28 - 07.04	Ch. 2b; Ch. 3a	All HW and Chapter Test for Ch. 2 must be submitted by 11:59 PM on Sunday, July 5
3	07.05 - 07.11	Ch. 3b; Ch. 4a	All HW and Chapter Test for Ch. 3 must be submitted by 11:59 PM on Sunday, July 12
4	07.12 - 07.18	Ch. 4b; all Ch. 5	*July 15th, 2015 is the last day to drop the course and still receive a "W" grade. All HW and Chapter Test for Ch. 4 must be submitted by 11:59 PM on Thursday , July 16 All HW and Chapter Test for Ch. 5 must be submitted by 11:59 PM on Sunday, July 19
5	07.19 - 07.25	Ch. 6	All HW and Chapter Test for Ch. 6 must be submitted by 11:59 PM on Sunday, July 26
6	07.26 - 08.01	Ch. 7	All HW and Chapter Test for Ch. 7 must be submitted by 11:59 PM on Sunday, Aug 2
7	08.02 - 08.08	Ch. 8	All HW and Chapter Test for Ch. 8 must be submitted by 11:59 PM on Sunday, August 9
8	08.09 - 08.13	Ch. 9a	All HW and Chapter Test for Ch. 9a must be submitted by 9:59 AM on Thursday , Aug 13
			FINAL EXAM on-campus from either 6:30-8:20 pm on Wednesday August 12 th or from 10:00-11:50 am on Thursday August 13 th .

FINAL EXAM

This class requires an on-campus or proctored exam.

A comprehensive final exam will be given the final days of class on Wednesday, August 12th (6:30 pm) or Thursday, August 13th (10:00 am). I will host these two sessions in order to accommodate most of your schedules. Students living ***outside the area (Inland Empire)*** may set up to have an alternate Final Exam administered by a proctor, approved ahead of time, at your expense if expenses are required. If this may apply to you, you **MUST** notify Professor Toner ***by the end of the second week of class, July 4, 2015***. Specific arrangements will be made with those students after July 15th (the "W" drop deadline).

Since there will be some in the class who will not stay in the class the full term, sign-up times for final exams will begin at the end of July, when we have determined how many students are still in the class and will be taking the final exam on-campus. An email will be sent to all remaining students at that time to start scheduling specific times for taking the final exam.

Any proctored exams must be submitted prior to noon on Thursday, August 13th.