

Basic Course Information

Semester	Fall 2014	Instructor Name	Kimberly Walther
Course Title & #	Math 81 Beginning Algebra	Email	kimberly.walther@imperial.edu
CRN #	10392	Webpage (optional)	none
Room	2723	Office	none
Class Dates	8/18/2014-12/13/2014	Office Hours	none
Class Days	Tuesday/Thursday	Office Phone #	none
Class Times	5:30 P.M. – 7:35 P.M.	Office contact if student will be out or emergency	Please email me with any questions, concerns or to notify me if you are absent.
Units	4 units		

Course Description

An introduction to the concepts of Algebra. Topics covered include solving equations, polynomials, factoring, rational expressions, graphs and linear equations, systems of linear equations, and inequalities.

(Nontransferable, non-degree applicable)

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Solve linear equations in one variable. (ILO2)
2. Factor polynomial expressions using a variety of methods and solve polynomial equations. (ILO2)
3. Graph linear equations and find values related to linear graphs. (ILO2)
4. Solve application problems appropriate to beginning algebra. (ILO2)

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate skills in solving first degree equations.
2. Demonstrate the ability to solve many problems in diverse areas, in a step-by-step manner, when dealing with applications.
3. Develop manipulation skills when operating polynomials.
4. Demonstrate the various types of factoring and be cognizant of the factoring process.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of skills in operations with and simplifications of rational expressions.
6. Demonstrate a visual understanding of the Cartesian Coordinate System and linear graphs.
7. Demonstrate the ability to solve linear systems of equations both algebraically and graphically.
8. Demonstrate the ability to solve linear inequalities algebraically and be able to present the solutions graphically.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Blitzer (2012). *Introductory & Intermediate Algebra for College Students* (4th/e).
 Pearson. ISBN: 978-0321729385

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Pre-requisite Math 70/71 - Grade of C or better; or appropriate placement.

Course: Equivalent to a first year algebra offered in high school. Topics covered are: Real number system, polynomials, rational expressions, linear and quadratic equations, relations, functions and graphs, systems of equations. Chapters covered are selections from chapters 1-7.

Assessment

1. Daily Quizzes 10 pts each

- **Purpose** - The principal aim is to help both you and me discover any misunderstandings of the material that was covered in the previous session. The other aim is to help you get used to taking exams from me and reduce any anxiety you may have.
- **Quiz** - Quizzes represent approximately 10% of your grade. Quizzes are approximately 5 -10 questions in length and are given at the end of each class session with the exception of test nights. If you choose to leave early you will lose your opportunity to take the quiz and must accept a zero as your score.

2. Homework 10 pts each

- **Purpose** - Homework is used to help you practice the skills that you have learned in class.
- **Homework** - Homework represents approximately 15% of your grade. You are encouraged to work with others when doing the homework exercises. You must show your work to receive credit. You will be assigned 90+ problems per class meeting. Homework is due at the beginning of the class session.

3. Chapter Exams 600 pts

- **Purpose** - Exams help you review past material and to evaluate your understanding of the material covered in each chapter.
- **Chapter Exams** - Chapter exams represent approximately 50% of your grade. The attached schedule is tentative, I reserve the right to adjust the specific dates of tests and assignments throughout the semester as needed. **Make-up tests are not available.**

4. Final Exam Date (12/09/2014) 300 pts

- **Purpose** - The Final exam will completely assess your new understanding about Algebra.
- **The Final exam is comprehensive covering chapters 1 - 7 and represents approximately 25% of your grade.**

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Grading Scale:

90% - 100%	A
80% - 89%	B
70% - 79%	C
60% - 69%	D
0 % - 59%	F

I do not grade on a curve. Your grade depends solely on your completion of assignments and your comprehension level of the material.

Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See General Catalog for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.
- It is your responsibility to drop before the W deadline. **(Nov. 8, 2014)**

Classroom Expectations and Etiquette

- Come to class on time and be prepared.
- Bring your book to every class session.
- Missed assignments, quizzes, and exams are recorded as zeros.
- Late work: Is not accepted.
- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the General Catalog.
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

Academic Honesty

- All work you turn in must be your own insights and understandings, not somebody else's. I will drop you from the course if you do otherwise.
- Plagiarism is to take and present as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to correctly 'cite a source', you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials, or assisting others in using materials, which are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General School Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment ;(c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment, (e) use of a commercial term paper service

Additional Help – Discretionary Section and Language

- Mrs. Walther: Ask Questions! Ask Questions! Ask Questions! Ask Questions!
- Tutorial services: Library, Vocational Education Building 1701,
- Computer tutorials: in the Math Lab Building 2500 (In order to access the Math Lab you must have a current IVC student ID card. I also encourage you to enroll in Math 60 to receive one unit of credit for using the Math Lab.
- Study Guides: The book store has a variety for sale.
- Blackboard support center: <http://bbcrm.edusupportcenter.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=8543>
- Learning Labs: There are several 'labs' on campus to assist you through the use of computers, tutors, or a combination. Please consult your college map for the Math Lab, Reading & Writing Lab, and Learning Services (library). Please speak to the instructor about labs unique to your specific program
- Library Services: There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the learning center, study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313 if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee. We now also have a fulltime mental health counselor. For information see <http://www.imperial.edu/students/student-health-center/>. The IVC Student Health Center is located in the Health Science building in Room 2109, telephone 760-355-6310.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and due process. For further information regarding student rights and responsibilities please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online at http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to help students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. Students can access tutorials at <http://www.imperial.edu/courses-and-programs/divisions/arts-and-letters/library-department/info-lit-tutorials/>

Anticipated Class Schedule / Calendar

Tentative Class Schedule

The instructor reserves the right to change the schedule as needed. It is the student’s responsibility to attend class regularly, pay attention to lectures and announcements and note any changes in the schedule the instructor may deem necessary.

Week	Date	Assignment
1	Tuesday August 19	Ch1 Review p 108 – 110 (1 – 113) odd
	Thursday August 21	Ch 2 Sections 1,2 and 3
2	Tuesday August 26	Ch 2 Sections 4 & 5
	Thursday August 28	Ch 2 Section 6 & 7
3	Tuesday September 2	Ch 3 Section 1 & 2
	Thursday September 4	Ch 3 Section 3 & 4
4	Tuesday September 9	Ch 3 Section 5
	Thursday September 11	Tentative date for Exam 1
5	Tuesday September 16	Ch 4 Sections 1 and 2
	Thursday September 18	Ch 4 Sections 3 and 4
6	Tuesday September 23	Ch 5 Sections 1 and 2
	Thursday September 25	Ch 5 Sections 3 and 4
7	Tuesday September 30	Ch 5 Sections 5 and 6
	Thursday October 2	Ch5 Section7
8	Tuesday October 7	Tentative date for Exam 2
	Thursday October 9	Ch 6 Sections 1 and 2

Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus – Math 81 Beginning Algebra

9	Tuesday October 14 Thursday October 16	Ch 6 Section 3 Ch 6 Section 4
10	Tuesday October 21 Thursday October 23	Ch 6 Section 5 Ch 6 Section 6
11	Tuesday October 28 Thursday October 30	Ch 7 Sections 1 and 2 Ch 7 Section 3
12	Tuesday November 4 Thursday November 6	Ch 7 Section 4 Ch 7 Section 5
13	Tuesday November 11 Thursday November 13	Holiday No School Ch 7 Section 6
14	Tuesday November 18 Thursday November 20	Ch 7 Section 7 Ch 7 Section 8
15	Tuesday November 25 Thursday November 27	Tentative date for Exam 3 Thanksgiving Day
16	Tuesday December 2 Thursday December 4	Review for Final Exam Review for Final Exam
17	<i>Tuesday December 9</i>	<i>Final Exam</i>