

Brazosport College Syllabus for Math 0406 Beginning Algebra

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Course Description and Prerequisites

The course provides an introduction to mathematical reasoning and problem-solving with an emphasis on the most basic concepts of arithmetic and algebra.

Prerequisite: None Required skill level code: Math D

This is the first course in the series of developmental courses in mathematics at Brazosport College. You may be enrolled in this course because of your score on a placement test. Successful completion of this course should indicate readiness for the next course, MATH 0406. No calculators are allowed in the developmental courses.

Course Goals

- Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to: Simplify integer problems using the order of operations.
- Evaluate polynomial expressions.
- Simplify polynomial expressions.
- Solve linear equations.
- Solve linear inequalities.
- Translate statements into an algebraic representation.
- Solve application problems using an algebraic equation.
- Graph an equation by point plotting.
- Add and subtract polynomial expressions.
- Multiply polynomial expressions.
- Simplify expressions using the laws of exponents.
- Factor by removing the greatest common factor.
- Factor using the difference of two squares.
- Factor trinomials.
- Solve quadratic equations with factoring.
- Add and subtract rational expressions.
- Multiply and divide rational expressions.
- Simplify complex fractions.
- Simplify radical expressions.
- Add and subtract radical expressions.

Textbook: Algebra: Beginning and Intermediate Aufmann Barker

Students with disabilities

Brazosport College is committed to providing equal education opportunities to every student. Brazosport College offers services for individuals with special needs and capabilities including counseling, tutoring, equipment, and software to assist students with special needs. Please contact Phil Robertson, Special Populations Counselor, 979-230-3236 for further information.

Academic Honesty

Brazosport College assumes that students eligible to perform on the college level are familiar with the ordinary rules governing proper conduct including academic honesty. The principle of academic honesty is that all work presented by you is yours alone. Academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion shall be treated appropriately. Please refer to the BC Student Guide for more information, this is available online at <http://www.brazosport.edu> , click on the link for student downloads on the right of the homepage. If you are caught in any kind of academic dishonesty, you will receive a zero for the assignment, quiz or test with no make-up.

Course Requirements and Grading Policy

Class Format

The class will be structured so that you will have time in class to immediately practice what you are learning. For example, you may have several twenty-five minute mini-lectures, with 10-15 minutes in between these lectures to work on your homework. You may work individually or in small groups. You may use this time to ask the instructor specific questions over the current lecture or questions from a previous assignment. You are encouraged to make the most of this time and ask for help if you need it. You may also take a **quick 5 minute break** during this time if you need it, but I ask that you limit yourself to **1 break per day**. (2 for summer)

Homework:

You will be assigned practice homework problems from the book which you should keep in a binder or spiral notebook. Each assignment should be started in class and finished outside of class. Make sure to keep your homework organized so that you can find it by page number or section. At the end of the semester, you will take a 10 question homework quiz. **This quiz will count for 10% of your grade.** Be sure to **copy all problems** and show all work. The homework quiz will simply ask you to find a problem and write down what you have for that problem. You can get credit even if your answer is incorrect as long as there is a valid effort shown on the problem.

Quizzes:

You should expect at least 1 quiz at every class meeting at the end of class. These in class quizzes **cannot be made up**. There may be instances when the quizzes are given in class to take home in which case you have the opportunity to take that quiz even if you are absent if you find out about it. For this reason, you should always check with the instructor after any absence and before the next class meeting. At the end of the semester, I will drop your two lowest quiz grades. Your quizzes will count as 15% of your grade.

Tests:

There will be 4-5 tests given during the semester. These tests will count as 60% of your final grade. You will be allowed to make up one test in the Learning Services Center if you schedule this with me in advance of the test or prior to the next class meeting. You can only do this once per semester. The final exam will count as 15% of your final grade and it is a comprehensive departmental final. It may also be used to replace your lowest test grade (including a zero for a missed exam).

Make-up Policy

Quizzes cannot be made up. You may schedule 1 make up exam if you do so prior to the next class meeting. No make-ups on or after the next class meeting after the scheduled exam. Otherwise the final can be used to replace a missed exam.

Grades will be assigned as follows:

60% Test average
15% Quiz average
10% Homework
15% Final exam

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
Below 70	F

Attendance and Withdrawals:

The Brazosport College Mathematics Department believes attendance in both lecture and lab is critical for the comprehension of material. Therefore, if student absences exceed requirements set by the instructor, he may be withdrawn from the course. **If a student is withdrawn from a developmental class and has not met the minimum passing score set by TSI, he will be withdrawn not only from the developmental mathematics course but from all other courses as well.**

My withdrawal process:

You may be withdrawn from the course once you exceed 4 absences (excused or unexcused). Please Note: *Tardiness to class is disruptive to the learning environment and it is also "absence from class."* If you considerably late or you leave early, you will be counted absent. In addition, *abusing the time given in class for classwork/help by taking extended breaks will count as absence from class.*

Reinstatement:

The college will notify you of the withdrawal by mail and you have a 10 day period to seek reinstatement from your teacher. Do not expect to be reinstated unless there are extenuating circumstances and you still have a chance to pass the class.

When you are absent:

If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed. You can check with a classmate or the instructor to see what you missed. **You are responsible for quizzes that are given at the end of class that will cover material from the previous day.**

Student Responsibilities

Students are expected to fully participate in the course. The following criteria are intended to assist you in being successful in this course.

- a. understand the syllabus requirements
- b. use appropriate time management skills
- c. communicate with the instructor
- d. complete course work on time, and
- e. utilize online components as required.

In addition, I expect each of you to behave in a way that provides for the most positive learning environment for all of the students in this class. This would include making every effort to be on time to class and prepared for class. **PLEASE DO NOT USE YOUR CELL PHONE DURING CLASS.** If I notice cell phone use by any student I will pause the lecture for the duration of the cell phone experience and resume lecture afterwards. Of course this will be annoying for you and me but your cell phone use is a distraction to me and your classmates. The structure of the class will depend upon the willingness of the class to use the time that is interspersed throughout the class time to work on the homework that is assigned. If the time allowed for independent practice is abused, the structure of the class will be modified. If your behavior detracts from this environment, you will be asked to leave class and to conference with me before returning to the next class meeting.

Student Services Information

Mathematics Department: Call 230-3225 and speak to Debbie Duncan or Jeff Detrick.

Math Center:

Located within the Student Success Center (second floor of the main building above the counseling and registration office) is the Brazosport College Math Center. The Math Center provides drop-in tutoring Monday – Thursday 9 am – 8 pm and Friday 9 am – noon. The Math Center can assist with transitional math, college algebra, trigonometry, accounting, statistics, calculus, and every other math course offered at the college. Check out our growing collection on handouts, videos, and other online resources, too. For questions, contact Kelly O’Neal at 979-230-3283. Also check out the Math Solutions Website: www.brazosport.edu/math

Make-Up Testing:

Learning Services is located downstairs adjacent to the library behind the counseling and registration offices. The phone number is 230-3523. To take a make-up test you must make arrangements with your teacher as well as signing up for a specific day and time. You must have a current BC ID.

Other Student Services:

Counseling and Advising	979-230-3040
Financial Aid	979-230-3294
Student Activities	979-230-3355

To reach the Information Technology Department for computer, email, or other technical assistance call the Help Desk at 979-230-3266

Important Dates:

June 4	Classes Begin
July 4	Holiday
August 1	Last Day to Withdraw
August 14-15	Finals

Your final exam is on August 15 from 10:15 – 12:15 *we may adjust time

Tentative Schedule:

Lesson	Page	Problems
		E (even) EOO (every other odd) *3 (multiples of 3)
Introduction to Integers	6	9-21,30-45,63-87 (*3)
	17	Column 1 (5-25)
	18	Column 1 33-53)
	19	Column I (65-92)
Rational Numbers	32-34	column 1(37-43,46-55,68-80,84-104)
Exponents and Order of operations	42 -3	Column 1 (3-26,36-57
Variable Expressions	57-58	Column I (65-90,97-125,133-159,172-187)
Translating Variable Expressions	68	65-100 *5
Introduction to Equations	94	3,12,21
	95	33-48 *3
	96	Column I (88-116)
	110	5-50 *5
More Linear Equations	112	Column 1 (98-134)
Applications of Linear Equations		
Linear Inequalities	179	12-45 * 3
	181	83-107
Introduction to Graphing	219	1-6
	220	9-18 *3

Lesson	Page	Problems
Simplifying Polynomials	377	39-42
	383	Column 1 (5-32)
	390-1	Column 1 (3-12, 35-41)
Simplifying Laws of Exponents	402-3	1-49 odd
Factoring GCF	434-5	Column 1 (5-20,23-70, 77-86)
Grouping	435	Column 1 (89-110)
Trinomials	441	Column 1(7-47)
GCF/Trinomials	442	Column 1 (63-81)
Factoring ax^2+bx+c	451-2	Column 1(3-47)
Difference of Squares and Perfect Square Trinomials	460	Column 1 (4-44)
Factor Completely	462	Column 1 (83-95,106-145)
Simplifying Rational Expressions	489	
Multiplying Rational Expressions	497-8	
Dividing Rational Expressions	498	
Add/Subtract Rational Expressions	500	
Complex Fractions	507	
Solving Quadratic Equations by Factoring	469	
Solving Literal Equations	535	
Solving Rational Equations	517	
Simplifying Radicals	557-8	
	565	
Adding and Subtracting Radicals	566	
Multiplying Radicals	567	