Syllabus

Class: MAT 105 "Introduction to College Algebra" (3 credits)

Meeting Times: MWF at 1:00 (in room 215)

Instructor: Peter L. Vachuska, office 249, phone 335-5250 ext. 249. I can also be reached by email at `Peter.Vachuska@uwc.edu`.

Office Hours: 10–10:50am daily or by appointment.

Textbook: *Intermediate Algebra* by Wright

Other Materials: All class handouts can be found online at `http://www.geocities.com/pvachusk/105/`

Grading: Grades will be based on six hour exams, each 100 points and a final worth 150 points. If you miss an exam or wish to retake the exam because of your exam grade, you must arrange with me for this to be done outside of class and these exams will not be returned to you. If you retake an exam, I will use the higher of the two scores in computing your final grade. You may use calculators or graphing calculators on exams. You may **not** use 1) Laptop or a portable/handheld computer, 2) Calculator that has typewriter-like keypad, 3) Electronic writing pad or pen-input/stylus-driven device, 4) Pocket organizer, or 5) Cell phone calculator. *You must show your steps on exams.*

My grading scale is: 100-90% being the A's, 90-80% being the B's, etc..., (with top/bottom 2 percents for $+/-$ in each catagory).

Material Covered: We will cover chapters 1, 2, 4–7 in the text as listed on the other side.

To do well in this class:

- Attend class
- Let the instructor know if you don't understand something
- Read the book
- Do the exercises after each section
- Don't fall behind
- Make use of office hours, learning center, study groups, etc.
- Go beyond the minimum amount that you need to know.
- Do all of the review problems before an exam.

Assessment: A UW Colleges-wide assessment program has been put into place to enhance the quality and effectiveness of the curriculum, programs, and services of the institution. The following areas of proficiency will be assessed because they are of primary importance in the education of our students: Analytical Skills, Quantitative Skills, Communication Skills, and the Aesthetic Engagement. The Mathematics Department has also determined a number of core proficiencies for students enrolled in mathematics classes. The three skill areas of solving equations, setting up and solving applied problems, and simplifying and evaluating expressions will be incorporated into the department assessment exercises this year. Results from these three areas will collectively be used to assess the colleges-wide proficiency "Solve quantitative and mathematical problems".

Important Dates:

September 15: Last day to add or to change from or to pass/fail or from audit to credit.
November 10: Last day to drop or to change from credit to audit.
November 27-28: Thanksgiving Recess.
December 15: Last day of classes.
December 17: Final Exam, 1:00–3:00.

Schedule and Suggested Problems*

Date	Section	Topic	Problems
Sept 03	Section 1.3	Linear Equations & Absolute Values	1–79 eoo†
Sept 05	Section 1.4	Evaluating and Solving Formulas	1–55 odd
Sept 08	Section 1.5	Applications	1–25 odd
Sept 10	Section 1.6	Linear Inequalities & Absolute Values	1–25, 41–49, 55-75 odd
Sept 12	Section 1.7	Properties of Exponents	1–69 odd
Sept 15	Section 1.8	Harder Exponentials	1–31 odd
Sept 17	Work on Review Problems		
Sept 19	**Exam 1**		
Sept 22	Section 2.1	Graphing Lines	1–41 odd
Sept 24	Section 2.2	The Slope-intercept Form	1–39, 45 odd
Sept 26	Section 2.3	Point-slope and Par./Perp. Lines	1–35 odd
Sept 29	Section 2.4	Functions	1–29 odd
Oct. 01	Section 2.5	Graphing Inequalities	1–29 odd
Oct. 03	Work on Review Problems		
Oct. 06	**Exam 2**		
Oct. 08	Section 4.1	Adding & Subtracting Polynomials	1–55 eoo
Oct. 10	Section 4.2	Multiplying Polynomials	1–59 eoo
Oct. 13	Section 4.3	Dividing Polynomials	1–39 eoo
Oct. 15	Section 4.4	Factoring I	1–59 odd
Oct. 17	Section 4.5	Factoring II	1–67 eoo
Oct. 20	Section 4.6	Solving Equations by Factoring	11–57 odd
Oct. 22	Work on Review Problems		
Oct. 24	**Exam 3**		
Oct. 27	Section 5.1	Multiplying/Dividing Fractions	31–79 eoo
Oct. 29	Section 5.2	Adding/Subtracting Fractions	1–43 odd
Oct. 31	Section 5.3	Complex Fractions	1–33 odd
Nov. 03	Section 5.4	Fractional Equations & Inequalities	1–49 odd
Nov. 05	Work on Review Problems		
Nov. 07	**Exam 4**		
Nov. 10	Section 6.1	Roots	11–61 eoo
Nov. 12	Section 6.2	Fractional Exponents	41–91 odd
Nov. 14	Section 6.3	Arithmetic with Radicals	1–59 eoo
Nov. 17	Section 6.4	Graphing Functions with Radicals	1–13 odd
Nov. 19	Section 6.5	Adding/Subtracting Complex Numbers	11–45 odd
Nov. 21	Section 6.6	*Mult./Div. Complex Numbers*	1-59 odd
Nov. 24	Work on Review Problems		
Nov. 26	**Exam 5**		
Dec. 01	Section 7.1	Completing the Square	1–69 eoo
Dec. 03	Section 7.2	The Quadratic Formula	25–59 eoo
Dec. 05	Section 7.4	Equations with Square Roots	1–35 eoo
Dec. 08	Section 7.5	Equations, Quadratic in Form	1–37 eoo
Dec. 10	Work on Review Problems		
Dec. 12	**Exam 6**		
Dec. 15	Work on Review Problems		
Dec. 17	**Final Exam**		

*This schedule might be adjusted if needed.

†every other odd