

Math 100A - Math 1
Rivier College, Fall 2005
MEM 304, MW 4:00-5:15 PM

Instructor: Tricia Ledoux

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Please let me know whenever you need help. The best way to contact me is through e-mail and from there we can either set up a time to meet or if possible I can answer your questions through e-mail. Please type MA100 in the subject Line of all emails and remember to use good writing skills when corresponding via email and Instant messenger.

Required Text: *Introductory Algebra-A Real-World Approach*, 2nd edition, by Ignacio Bello, New York: McGraw-Hill, 2006, packaged with Math Zone access.

Brief course description: This course is designed for students with little or no background in Algebra, as well as students needing a review of basic Algebra. The principal objective of the course is to develop and to strengthen the basic skills necessary for subsequent courses. It does not fulfill the general education mathematics requirement and it is not available for credit to students who have successfully completed a course equivalent to MA 112 or higher.

Course Objectives: A student successfully completing this course should be able to

- _ perform multi-step calculations involving whole numbers, fractions, and decimals.
- _ convert between percentage, decimal, and fractional representation.
- _ identify when two fractions are equivalent.
- _ recall and apply basic geometric formulas for perimeter and area.
- _ translate a verbal problem into mathematical notation and solve the problem.
- _ use proportions, percents, and averaging to solve verbal problems mathematically.
- _ interpret and construct basic relational tables and graphs.
- _ use mathematical strategies to address loosely defined problems.
- _ use variables to represent unknown quantities.
- _ simplify expressions involving variables, radicals, and/or exponents.
- _ combine binomial expressions by addition, subtraction, and multiplication.
- _ solve linear and quadratic equations of one variable.
- _ use, recognize and apply functional notation.
- _ graph a linear function and identify its slope and intercepts.
- _ graph a quadratic function and identify its vertex and intercepts.
- _ apply his/her mathematical skills to real world problems
- _ become independent learners of mathematics
- _ develop an appreciation of mathematics

Teaching Strategies: At the beginning of each class we will discuss the previous HW assignment. Please write down any problems from the MathZone site that you could not figure out, do not understand, or would just like to see written out. After all questions have been answered I will assume that everyone is ready to move on. It is your responsibility to ask questions if you have them, remember we will continue to build on previous lessons, so if something is unclear it may continue to be a problem for you in the next lesson as well, get it cleared up before we move on. All new material will be introduced after questions from previous lessons are answered. We will discuss it and work through a few examples. Your active involvement is CRITICAL! You are encouraged to participate and may be asked to demonstrate your knowledge in class. The next step will be practice on your own. This will be in the form of reading through your notes, reviewing in-class examples, reading text, doing examples from text (all odd answers are in back of book), and doing the assigned problems from the MathZone site and from the textbook.

Course Requirements:

- Satisfactory completion of MathZone homework assignments
- Active participation and engagement in all class activities
- Regular attendance at class meetings
- Acceptable Performance on Graded Assignments and Tests

Required Materials:

- 3 Ring binder with paper to keep notes, handouts, Textbook HW problems, graded assignments and tests.
- MathZone account (Use the login and password that came with your text)
- Computer with web access (use campus lab if you need to)
- Calculator with exponents and square roots. If you plan to take MA112, MA130, or MA165, a graphing calculator such as a TI-83 is required for those courses. See me if you have questions.

Math Help: All students are encouraged to seek help from peer tutoring or the instructor when needed. The MathZone site also has Net tutoring and video lectures that are specific to our text.

Homework: Your homework will be a combination of textbook problems and problems from the MathZone site. The textbook problems will be kept in your binder and we will review any of these problems you have to start the class. The Mathzone problems are graded automatically and the grades are recorded in my online grade book. You can access this site through <http://higher.ed.mcgraw-hill.com/classware/infoCenter.do?isbn=0072831057> or by simply going to mathzone.com and choosing the correct text, which is “Bello, Introductory Algebra, 2e”. You will be given a limited amount of time to complete each assignment at an acceptable score which I have set at 75% or better. You will be able to redo the homework problems as many times as you need up to the given due date, to get to minimum score. Do not wait until the last minute as there may be network problems or it may take you a few attempts to get the minimum score of 75%. MathZone will record your passing attempt in my grade book. In addition, you may be asked to present problems at the board which will contribute to your HW/Activity grade.

Assessment and Computation of Grade:

Homework, Activities	20%	
Graded Assignments	30%	(10% each)
Tests	30%	(10% each)
Final Exam	20%	

Graded Assignments #1 given out on 9/19 - Due by 9/23 at noon in my mailbox

Graded Assignments #2 given out on 10/19 - Due the following class

Graded Assignments #3 given out on 11/16 - Due the following class

3 Comprehensive Tests: 10/5, 11/2, 11/30

Final Exam: Wednesday December 14th (Comprehensive)

Classroom Policies:

- Active participation requires attendance and arrival to class in time with all materials (text, paper, pencil, calculator) out and ready for work when the class period begins. It would be beneficial to get to class 15-20 minutes early to review your notes from the previous class and discuss any problems/concerns with your instructor and/or peers.

· This course requires a significant amount of work outside of class. Approximately five to eight hours per week. This includes reading the textbook, reviewing class notes, doing assigned work on MathZone and from the Textbook, and preparing for tests. If you find you are spending significantly more or less time than this please see me and we may need to re-evaluate your method of studying and/or your placement in MA100.

· All work turned in on tests and Graded Assignments must be entirely your own. Behavior contrary to this will result in a grade of F. (See Rivier Academic Honesty Policy below)

· Attendance will be taken each class period. You are expected to attend all classes. If you miss class, you are responsible for doing all classroom activities you missed, getting the notes from a classmate, and turning in all work on the day it is due. If you miss more than six classes, your absence will be reported to the registrar and you must meet with the professor to discuss the advisability of your remaining in the course for the remainder of the semester. Students who miss nine classes may be withdrawn from the course and receive disciplinary action from the college (see Rivier Attendance Policy below)

· If unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances keep you from attending class on the day of a test, you must contact the instructor immediately to explain the absence and, if approved, schedule a make-up.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): Rivier College wants to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. To accomplish this goal effectively and to ensure the best use of our resources, the College expects students to provide timely notice of a disability to the Office of Special Services for verification and for evaluation of available options. Any student whose disabilities fall within ADA should inform the instructor within the first two weeks of the term of any special needs or equipment necessary to accomplish the requirements for the course. To obtain current information on this procedure, contact the Office of Special Services at telephone extension 8497, or see Rivier's website www.rivier.edu display for Specialized Student Services.

Rivier Academic Honesty: Plagiarism and cheating are serious breaches of academic honesty. In general, plagiarism is defined as the presentation of someone else's work in whatever form: copyrighted material, notes, film, art work, reports, statistics, bibliographies, and the like, as one's own, and failing to acknowledge the true source. Quoting word-for-word, or almost so, or using the argumentation of another source without acknowledging this dependence also constitutes plagiarism. Cheating is defined as the giving or attempting to give or to receive unauthorized information or assistance during an examination or in completing an assigned project. Submission of a single work for two separate courses without the permission of the instructors involved is also a form of cheating. If students are unsure whether a specific course of action would constitute plagiarism or cheating, they should consult with their instructor in advance.

Penalties for plagiarism and cheating vary with the degree of the offense and may take the form of the following academic sanctions:

- the grade of F for the work in question;
- the grade of F for the course;
- notification of the department chair and/or Academic Dean of the College of the misconduct of the student;
- recommendations that the student be suspended or dismissed from the College.

Rivier Attendance Policy: The classroom is the heart of the educational experience at Rivier College because it provides, uniquely, a formal setting for the important exchanges among faculty and students. Regular and punctual attendance at all classes, essential for maximum academic achievement, is a major responsibility of Rivier College students. Failure to attend and contribute to the classroom environment significantly and demonstrably reduces the quality of the educational experience for everyone in the classroom. As a result, absences almost always impact quality performance.

As part of its commitment to a quality educational experience for all members of the Rivier community, the College formally requires specific attendance policies to be developed by its professors and reviewed by their Chair and Dean. Any form of attendance used by an individual professor as a criterion for evaluation must be specified in the course syllabus and presented to students during the first week of classes. These policies may include reasonable penalties and sanctions for excessive absences. In the event of prolonged illness, accident, or similar emergency, it is the responsibility of the student to notify both the professor and the Office of the Dean. Students must remember that it is always their responsibility to make up the work they have missed during an absence from class. Students are directed to confer with their professors when their absences jeopardize satisfactory progress. Whenever a professor is absent without notification, students are expected to wait fifteen minutes before leaving and to sign an Attendance List, which a class member delivers to the Office of the Dean.

Instructors are required to record attendance and alert the Registrar when a student fails to attend the equivalent of two consecutive weeks of courses (2 absences for a course meeting once a week, 4 absences for a course meeting twice a week, 6 absences for a course meeting three times a week). The student will then be alerted that he/she is in danger of falling under the “habitual non-attendance” policy” (see below).

Habitual Non-Attendance Policy

Habitual non-attendance of a course or courses will be considered academic misconduct subject to withdrawal from the course(s) not attended. Habitual non-attendance is defined as an absence in any course (for any reason whatsoever) equating to three full weeks of missed class sessions (3 absences for a course meeting once a week, 6 absences for a course meeting twice a week, 9 absences for a course meeting three times a week).

It is the responsibility of the student to notify the College of any intention to withdraw from a course or withdraw from the College. The College will attempt to resolve the issue of habitual non-attendance with the student; however, the College reserves the right to withdraw students who are no longer attending courses. Habitual non-attendance in one or more classes may result in administrative withdrawal from the class or classes affected withdrawal from the College or, in cases with extenuating circumstances, an administrative leave of absence. In such cases a grade of W or NF will be assigned to the classes affected according to the appropriate date published in the academic calendar.

Students who have attended no class sessions of a course or courses from which they are registered by the end of the drop/add period will be dropped from each class not attended. If a student never attended any courses during the drop/add period, the student will be withdrawn from his/her full schedule of courses.