

**New Mexico State University at Grants Campus
Fall 2006**

Math 120-01: Intermediate Algebra

3 Cr.

Instructor: Dr. Charlotte Otts
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Office: MH 111a
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Office Hours: M 11:00 am—2:00 pm, W 1:00—2:00 pm
TTh 4:00—5:00 pm

Text: *Intermediate Algebra: 10th Edition*, by Marvin L. Bittinger

Class Place & Time: MW, Rm 102, 6:40 – 8:20 pm

Overview: Math 120 is designed for students who have had the equivalent of a good high school algebra course but need to improve their algebra skills before proceeding to higher level mathematics. Students who have successfully completed Math 120 should be prepared to take Math 121, Math 142, Math 180, Math 190, Math 230, Stat 251, or CHEM 111. The prerequisite for Math 120 is a grade of "C" or better in CCDM 113N or CCDM 114N, or a score of 60 or higher on the Elementary Algebra portion of the Computerized Placement Test.

Expected Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, the student will have learned about and gained manipulative skills related to the algebra of real numbers, to solving and graphing equations and inequalities, to polynomials, to rational expressions and equations, to quadratic equations, to relations and functions, to exponential and logarithmic functions, and to solving applied problems.

Instructional Activities: Learning activities will consist of lectures; classroom discussion; working problems in class; homework activities; preparing for, taking, and reviewing tests; and preparing for and taking a comprehensive final exam.

Evaluation: Evaluation will be based on five unit tests, the final cumulative exam, and homework assignments. The final exam will count as 20% of the final grade. For each student, the two worst homework scores will be thrown out. (These may include some zeros for assignments not handed in on time.) The remaining homework will be averaged and will count as 20% of the final grade. The five unit exams will count as 60% of the final grade.

Grading Scale:

100% – 90%	A	Plus/minus modifiers will be used if the final score is within two points of the next closest letter grade.
89% – 80%	B	
79% – 70%	C	
69% – 60%	D	
59% and below	F	

***Note:** In order to proceed to the next course you must pass MATH 120 with a C or better.

Homework: Homework exercises will involve working exercises from the text after the appropriate material has been covered in class (see course outline for specific dates). The specific problems will be assigned during each class. Assignments should be given to me in proper order with each section stapled separately; and it should be clear to me which answers go with which problems and/or their various parts. **Final answers should be enclosed in boxes, please!** **All homework assignments must be completed in pencil.** If you submit homework with only answers and no work you will receive a zero for that assignment. Assignments should be handed in at the beginning of the class period for which they are due. **Homework turned in late but within 24 hours of the beginning of class will receive a maximum of half credit. After that time, a score of zero will be recorded. If you are absent, you are still responsible for turning in your assignment for that day, no later than noon of the next day.** You are responsible for the next class period's assignment too.

Tests: There will be five unit tests. All tests will be taken in the Math Lab, room MH111 with the exception Test 5 and the final comprehensive exam. Test 5 and the final exam will be taken in class. If you fail to take a test by the deadline, you will be given a zero for that test. **All exams must be returned to me.**

Rules for Retesting: If you are unhappy with a test score (or you missed a test), you may retest (or take it) once. In order to do so, you must rework on separate sheets of paper all the problems that are scored **incorrect**. Do not erase any problems on the original test. After completing all test corrections, make an appointment with me to review your test. At that time I will provide a test ticket for you to retake in the test in the Math Lab, room 111. **Remember, your retake must occur before the next chapter test.** If you fail to retest before the next test, you keep your original score. The final score will be the higher of the two tests.

Attendance: Your attendance is mandatory.

Calculator: A scientific calculator is recommended for this course; you may prefer to learn the graphing calculator. You may borrow either from the math department.

Cell Phones: Please turn off your phone or switch it to vibrate. Please do not answer calls in class as it disrupts the class.

SYLLABUS ADDENDUM

- The instructor may modify this syllabus to meet the needs of a particular class.
- If you have, or believe you have, a disability and would benefit from any accommodation(s), you may wish to register with the Student Services Office on the first floor of Martinez Hall. All medical information will be treated confidentially. After you have registered, please make sure that I receive a copy of the accommodation memorandum from Student Services within the first two weeks of class. It will be the student's responsibility to inform me or the office of Student Services (in a timely manner) if services/accommodations provided are not meeting your needs. Feel free to call Ms. Irene Lutz, Campus Student Services Officer at 287-6629 with any questions about the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
- If you have a condition that may affect your ability to exit safely from the premises in an emergency or that may cause an emergency during class, you are encouraged to discuss any concerns with Ms. Irene Lutz; Campus Student Services Officer at 287-6629.
- Any student found guilty of academic misconduct shall be subject to disciplinary action. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, the following actions: cheating; helping other students cheat; plagiarism; unauthorized possession of examinations, reserve library materials or laboratory materials; unauthorized changing of grades on an examination, instructor's grade book or grade report; nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other college records. The following disciplinary actions and sanctions may be imposed for any of the above infractions of regulations: Disciplinary Probation, Disciplinary Suspension, Dismissal, and Expulsion. At the very least, academic misconduct may result in a failing grade in this class.
- Students are expected to attend regularly all classes for which they are registered. When the number of absences is excessive and hinders a student's progress, the instructor may recommend expulsion from the class. For a 15-week course, that means more than **three consecutive absences or five cumulative absences**. Based on the recommendation of the instructor, and with the concurrence of the Campus Instructional Officer and the Campus Student Services Officer, a student will be dropped for persistent absences or for persistent failure to complete class assignments. Similarly, a student may be dropped for behavior that interferes with the educational environment of the class. Any student who has been dropped has the right to appeal through the student Academic Grievance Policy (see Student Handbook).

Tentative Course Schedule

Material from the text will be covered as follows. Please read each section to be covered **before** coming to class.

W	Aug 23:	1.1, 1.2	M	Oct. 23:	6.1, 6.2
M	Aug. 28:	1.2, 1.3, 1.4	W	Oct. 25:	6.3, 6.4
W	Aug. 30:	1.5, 1.6, 2.1	Thurs. Oct. 26:	Test 3 (Ch. 4&5) due by 4 p.m.	
M	Sept. 4: LABOR DAY HOLIDAY				
W	Sept 6:	2.2, 2.3, 2.4	M	Oct. 30:	6.5, 6.6
Th	Sept 7: Test 1 (Ch 1) due by 4 p.m.				
M	Sept. 11:	2.5, 2.6	W	Nov. 1:	6.7, 6.8
W	Sept. 13:	3.1, 3.2,	M	Nov. 6:	7.1, 7.2
M	Sept. 18:	3.3, 3.4,	W	Nov. 8:	7.6, 7.3
W	Sept. 20:	3.7, 4.1	M	Nov. 13:	7.7, 8.1
M	Sept. 25:	4.2, 4.3	W	Nov. 15:	8.2, 8.3
Tues.	Sept. 26: Test 2 (Ch. 2 & 3) due by 4 p.m.				
W	Sept. 27:	4.4, 4.5	Thurs. Nov. 16:	Test 4 (Ch. 6 &7) due by 4 p.m.	
M	Oct. 2:	4.6, 4.7	F	Nov. 17: LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW FROM UNIVERSITY	
W	Oct. 4:	4.8, 5.1	M	Nov. 20:	8.4, 8.5
M, T	Oct 9, 10: FALL BREAK				
W	Oct. 11:	5.2, 5.3	W-F	Nov.23-25:THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY	
M	Oct. 16:	5.5, 5.6	M	Nov. 27:	8.6, 8.7
T	Oct. 17: LAST DAY TO DROP A COURSE WITH A "W"				
W	Oct: 18:	5.7, 5.8	W	Nov. 29:	Catch-up
			M	Dec 4: Test 5 (Ch. 8) in class	
			W	Dec. 6:	Review for final
			M	Dec. 12: COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM 6:30—8:30 pm	

