College Algebra - MATH 1314 - 1213 - Fall 2016
Addendum to Course Document

INSTRUCTOR: **Dr. Dang.** Office: **Winship 115T**
Class time: 10 to 11:20am Tu/Th in Winship 118.
Office Hours: Mo/We 12 – 12:30pm and 5:30 – 6pm. Tu: 1:30 – 3pm. Th: 1:30 – 4pm.
Email: **vinh.x.dang @lonestar.edu** (best way to contact me)
Office Phone #: 281-618-5684

PREREQUISITE

This is a rigorous college level mathematics course. Hence, in order to be successful in the class, it is important that you are prepared for it. Otherwise, it will only slow your progress and hurt your grade. The prerequisite is a mastery of the material covered in Math 310 or equivalent. The pretest is given as a tool to help you determine whether you are properly prepared for 1314. You should get at least 22 correct answers. If you score below a 22, you need to talk to me regarding your options which may include enrolling in Math 310 or 0308 or 0306 to help you better prepared for 1314.

WEBSITES

1. apps.lonestar.edu/blogs/vindang/ (class notes, exam reviews, syllabus)
2. d2l.lonestar.edu (grades)
3. Webassign.net (online homework)

When you go to my website, hover over Fall 2016 and click on your class Math 1314 - 1213.

Please make sure to check these websites at least a couple of times a week. I will regularly email you via WebAssign and D2L. Make sure to check your D2L email and the email you use to register on WebAssign a couple of times a week as well. Use an email that you frequently check to register with WebAssign. Add the email address **notifications@webassign.net** to your contact list so that notifications from WebAssign it is not classified as spam.

FINAL GRADE CALCULATION

Online Homework	10%
Regular Exams	60% (4 regular exams @ 15% each)
Final Exam:	30%

GRADING POLICY

90 – 100: A; 80 – 89: B; 70 – 79: C, 60 – 69: D, Below 60: F.

REQUIRED MATERIAL

Textbook: College Algebra – Openstax. (required)
The pdf version of the book can be downloaded freely. Go to:

https://openstax.org/details/college-algebra

and click on **Download a PDF (Recommended).** You can also read the book online by clicking on **View online**. I expect you to either download the book or have online access to it by the end of Monday, August 29th.

WebAssign Online Homework System. (required)
Please register at http://webassign.net/ by the end of Wednesday August 31st to immediately start working on the homework. The class key is:
lonestar.northharris 7523 0111
The cost is $28.95.

ATTENDANCE

If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to contact a classmate to borrow their notes, find out what we cover, which assignment is due and other important information. I will NOT re-lecture the material in my office hour but will be happy to clarify any confusion you may still have after you study your classmate's notes and read the textbook.
Also, tardiness is disruptive for both instructor and students. Avoid them. Come to class on time and do NOT leave in the middle of my lecture. Unless prior arrangement is made with me, I might count you as being absent if you disrupt my lecture by either coming late or leaving in the middle of lecture.
I *may* drop you after 4 absences. **90 % of success is showing up- I cannot help you if you are not present.**

ONLINE HOMEWORK

The only way to learn mathematics is to DO mathematics. Do the homework problems. Understand every concept, technique, and strategy involved in their solutions. Keep up with the material by steadily and continuously practice solving problems is the only way to succeed in this class.

Online homework is assigned using WebAssign to provide you with valuable online resources and immediate feedback. The due date for each homework assignment is posted on WebAssign. Typically, there are online homework assignments due every week. You are responsible for knowing which assignment is due when and complete the assignment before the due date. I generally do not extend the deadline but if you have an emergency, talk to me as soon as possible. Online homework assignments constitute 10% of your grade. **Immediately work on the online homework for a section as soon as we finish covering that section in class.**

LEARNING GOALS, WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS AND EXTRA CREDIT

The **Learning Goals** are a list of learning objectives and exercises from the book that help you master these objectives. The Learning Goals are your study guide for all of the exams. Please use these learning objectives and the corresponding exercises to prepare for the exams. Exam problems are similar to, but not identical to these exercises.

The Written Exercises are assigned based on the learning objectives for each section we cover. These exercises will not be part of your grade but mastering them will definitely help you do well on the exams. To provide you with an incentive for completing these exercises, you can earn up to 5 points of extra credit on each regular exam by turning in complete, correct, carefully and neatly written solutions to most of the written exercises from the learning goals. More specific guidelines of how these extra credit points are rewarded will be posted on my website. You must strictly follow these guidelines in order to earn the points.

You can also earn another extra 5 points on each regular exam by turning in complete solutions to the practice exams posted on my website. Guidelines will be posted there and you must follow these guidelines to earn the points.

In sum, you can earn up to 10 extra credit points on each regular exam. No extra credit points are available for the final exam.

REGULAR EXAMS/FINAL EXAM/MAKE UP POLICY

You will have 4 exams during the semester. You must show all work on exams. Calculators will be allowed on exams. However, you MUST use calculators that I supply (Scientific Calculators). You are NOT allowed use your own calculator on exams. No books, notes or cheat sheets are allowed on any of the exams.

Make-up exams policy:

I do not teach cosmetology. Hence, I do not give make-up exams. I do understand that schedules get hectic. Thus, if you know in advance that you will need to miss an exam, let me know and I will try to make an arrangement. The following guidelines will apply:

1. You must notify me both in person and via email.
2. You must notify me at least one week prior to the exam date.
3. If you wish to take the exam, you must take it before the regularly scheduled time.
4. Notice that a panicked cellphone call from the freeway on the morning of the exam does not fall into this category. Such an event is covered below.
5. Notice that asking me several days (or weeks or months) after the exam does not fall into this category. Such an event is covered below.

I also understand that unforeseeable events can occur. Hence, I will replace the lowest of your exam#1-4 scores with the score you make on the final exam, provided the score on the final exam is higher than your lowest regular exam scores. If you miss an exam, you will simply have your score from the final substituted for the missing score. The following guidelines will apply:

1. The final exam will not be replaced. You have to take the final.
2. If you miss 2 exams, only one will be replaced.

ACADEMIC HONESTY, CELL PHONES AND OTHER IMPORTANT ITEMS

1. Please turn off all cell phones, pagers, etc, any electronic devices that may disrupt my lecture or the learning of your classmates during class time.
2. During the regular exams and the final, please turn off all your cell phones and put them in your backpacks or purses and put your backpacks or purses in the front of the class. If I see you have a cell phone on you during the exam, you will receive a 0 on the exam regardless of whether you use it or not. This is absolutely non-negotiable.
3. Collaboration with others on any graded work is prohibited unless the assignment is a group assignment. Violations of this policy will result in a 0 for that work. You can work with your classmates on the online, written exercises and the practice exams, but anything you turn in must be written by you and in your own words and demonstrate your understanding of the material.
4. Come by my office for help during office hours. If you cannot make it to any of my office hours, come to the MAC center or the learning center.
5. Take responsibility for getting caught up if you miss class: ask your classmate for class notes, go to the MAC, meet with your classmates in the MAC and go over homework there.
6. At all times during the semester, you, the student are responsible for ensuring that you are properly enrolled in the course and should you decide to, you are properly withdrawn from the course.

BEHAVIOR:

I will remove any individual from the lecture/web discussions and/or the course who is deemed by me and/or others to be disrupting the educational process. Students will typically be warned of said behavior before removal. However, in extreme circumstances, the student will be removed without warning. This is a fast-paced course and there is a lot of material to cover. Hence, I will spend most, if not all, of class time to lecture on the important concepts, techniques and examples. Homework questions, policy questions, clarification questions on previous material will be answered during my office hours. Constructive short questions or comments are welcome during lecture. I especially welcome your answers to the questions and exercises I post during my lecture. However, I have zero tolerance for disruptive or disrespectful behavior in class.

READING THE BOOK

Except for the first day, I expect you to read the sections that we are going to cover in class before coming to class. That way, class time will be more like a review and you can follow my lecture and internalize the important concepts, techniques and examples we cover much more effectively.

RESOURCES

Math Lab Tutoring: Students can get free help from tutors in the math lab (Academic 200) or MAC center (across the hall from the math office Win 115). No appointment is necessary and the Lab is staffed with a tutor or tutors during all the hours it is open.

Rhonda Cannon, Counselor for Math and Natural Sciences, is available in Winship 115G to assist you in meeting your academic, career, and personal goals.