Western Kentucky University
MATH 116 – College Algebra
Spring 2017

Meeting Times: MTWRF 8:00am-9:40am (Section A1)   **Classroom**: COHH 3117

Professor: Dr. Dan Clark   **Email:** daniel.clark@wku.edu

Office Locations & Hours: College High Hall (COHH) 3115
MTWR 12:15pm – 1:15pm
And/or by appointment or capture

Prerequisites: At least one of the following criteria must be met to enroll in MATH 116:
- Math ACT score of 22 or better
- Math SAT score of 510 or better
- WKU Math Placement Exam score of 14 or better within the last year
- KYOTE College Algebra Exam score of 14 or better within the last year
- COMPASS (College Algebra) score of 50 or better within the last year
- Completion of DMA 096C with a grade of C or better

Note: If you have taken MATH 116 before and received a grade of D, F, or FN, you are not eligible to enroll in this section of MATH 116. Instead, you must enroll in a section of MA 116C on South Campus.

Course Description: This course provides students with the ability to understand and apply mathematical skills and concepts. Math 116 students will be able to:
- use fundamental mathematical reasoning principles;
- interpret information presented in tables or graphical displays;
- use graphical, symbolic, and numeric methods to solve practical problems; and
- apply an appropriate mathematical model to the problem to be solved.

The content of the course will include: Introduction to Functions, Linear and Quadratic Functions, Polynomial and Rational Functions, Exponential and Logarithmic Functions, and Systems of Equations

Learning Objectives: This course fulfills the Quantitative Reasoning requirement in the Foundations category of WKU's Colonnade program. As part of that program, Math 116 has the following learning objectives:

Students will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Interpret information presented in mathematical and/or statistical forms.
2. Illustrate and communicate mathematical and/or statistical information symbolically, visually and/or numerically.
3. Determine when computations are needed and execute the appropriate computations.
4. Apply an appropriate model to the problem to be solved.
5. Make inferences, evaluate assumptions, and assess limitations in estimation modeling and/or statistical analysis.

Instructional Materials:
• **MyMathLab**: An online subscription to Pearson's "MyMathLab" is required. The access kit packet is available at WKU Bookstore or online through Pearson. Specific information will be discussed regarding how to register for MyMathLab (MML) on the first day of class.
• **Textbook (optional)**: A Graphical Approach to College Algebra, 6 th ed, 2015, Hornsby, Lial, Rockswold. The entire textbook is included in the online package through the MyMathLab subscription. **There is no need to buy the textbook.**
• **Calculator**: Students are expected to have a graphing calculator--TI 83 Plus or TI 84 Plus or Silver Edition. (Note: TI-89's and TI-92's are not permitted). Cell phones may not be used as calculators.
• **Internet access**: You must have regular and reliable access to your WKU email account, MML, and Blackboard. Lack of internet access or failure to login to these systems may not be used as an excuse for failing to obtain materials or turn in homework assignments. You should check your WKU email account, MML, and the Blackboard site for this course daily as all announcements for the class will be there.

Assessment and Grading: There will be 4 hourly exams, a cumulative final exam, quizzes, and homework assignments as noted below.
- 4 hourly exams @ 100 points each   60%
- Final exam   20%
- Quizzes   10%
- Homework assignments   10%

See the last page of this syllabus for the specific dates on which this section will take its exams, as well as other important dates. You must take each of these exams on the scheduled date during the allotted time, unless you have documentation from the Office of Student Disability Services. If you have a conflict with one of the dates listed here, you must notify me well in advance of the exam date so that arrangements can be made for you to take the exam early. Make-ups will be allowed under only the most extreme circumstances, and will generally involve the taking of a substantially more difficult exam. The **Final Exam** times for this courses are as follows:

Section	Final Exam
A1	Friday, 7/7, 8:00am-9:40am

Grading scale:
A: 90% -- 100%   B: 80% -- 89%   C: 70%-79% D 60% -- 69%   F: 0% -- 59%
This grading scale will *not* be curved, even at the end of the semester. All grades are based on how well each student learns the material, so grades are not competitive. Grades in MATH 116 are based on understanding, not upon comparisons with other students.

Importance of Homework and Quizzes: Much of mathematics is learned through solving problems, and confidence is gained through discussion and mastery of the material. Homework will be assigned daily. Assignments will consist of doing a selection of problems on MyMathLab. In this class, **homework assignments will be due before the next class period** unless otherwise noted by the instructor. **Late homework will not be accepted for any reason.**

You are encouraged to work with your instructor and other students to understand the course material. However, we expect that after conferring with others, you will write submit **your own responses individually and independently of others**. **DO NOT copy answers to homework problems from others**. (See note on Academic Honesty later in this document.)

You should plan on spending about 3 hours of homework for each class meeting. *Do not let yourself get behind the class!* As in most mathematics courses, the material progressively builds upon itself. If you do not understand a particular topic ask questions in class, in office hours, or in the Mathematics Help Lab.

Attendance and Participation: Classes will be a mix of lecture, problem solving done individually and in small groups, and whole class discussion. You are expected to take notes, to participate in class activities and discussions, and to ask questions about what you do not understand. Attendance is important and will be taken, but will not be factored directly into your grade. That said, the charts below represent the correlation between student absences and grades for courses I have taught previously at WKU. Both charts represent the same data.
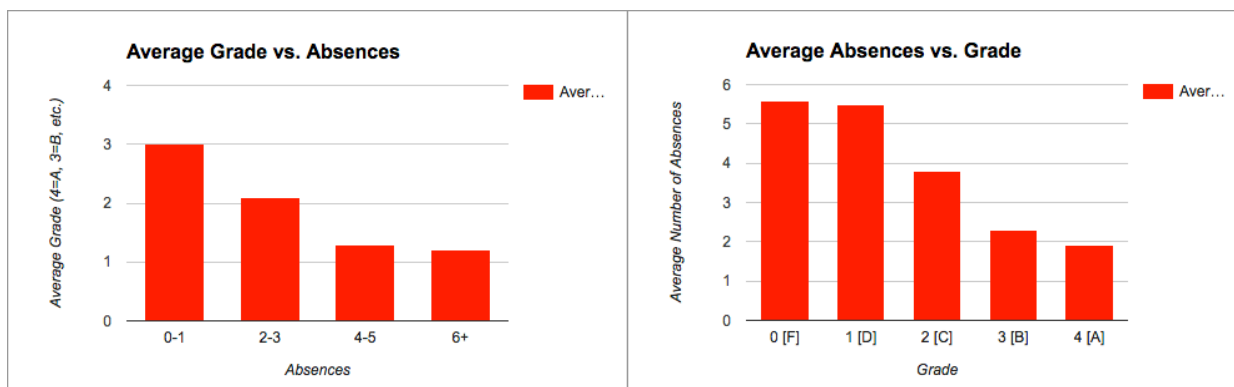
Other Expectations: Occasionally class time is wasted due to the behavior of people who are not respectful of others. Please refrain from the following disruptive actions.
- Coming late to class.
- Reading newspapers or other material not related to the course in class.
- Using objects, e.g. watches, cell phones, tablets, that beep or ring in class.

Unless they are being used for purposes related to the course, all cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off and properly stowed during class.
- Having private conversations or text messaging during class time.
* Leaving class early. (If for some reason you must leave class early, please inform your instructor before the start of class, and please leave class quietly.)

Math Help Lab: The department of mathematics provides a free help lab located in COHH 2124. Hours for the lab and specific tutor schedules are posted and will be announced in class or by email.

ADA Compliance: Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center (SARC), DSU Room 1074. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor without a letter of accommodations from SARC.

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated: This includes any form of cheating or plagiarism. The policy is found on the web at https://www.wku.edu/handbook/academic-dishonesty.php .

Some Important Dates:
Wednesday 6/7/17 – Last day to drop the course without a grade
Tuesday 6/20/17 – Last day to drop the course with a W or change to audit

Tentative Course Schedule
This could change at any time, but I will let you know if it does.

Week	Date	Session	Content
1	5-Jun	1	Review
	6-Jun	2	2.1, 2.2
	7-Jun	3	2.3, 2.4
	8-Jun	4	2.5, 2.6
	9-Jun	5	Review
2	12-Jun	6	Test
	13-Jun	7	3.1, 3.2
	14-Jun	8	3.3, 3.4
	15-Jun	9	3.5, 3.6
	16-Jun	10	3.7, 3.8
3	19-Jun	11	Review
	20-Jun	12	Test
	21-Jun	13	5.1, 5.2
	22-Jun	14	5.3, 5.4
	23-Jun	15	5.5, 5.6
4	26-Jun	16	6.1, 6.2
	27-Jun	17	Review
	28-Jun	18	Test
	29-Jun	19	4.1, 4.2
	30-Jun	20	4.3 – 4.5
5	3-Jul	21	Review
	4-Jul		No class
	5-Jul	22	Test
	6-Jul	23	Review
	7-Jul	24	Final