

Instructor: Ms. R. L. Ayers **Email:** robin.ayers@wku.edu **Office:** COHH 3112

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description

This course provides Non-STEM students with the ability to understand and apply mathematical skills and concepts. Math 115 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. This course does not serve as a prerequisite for Math 117. The content of the course will include:

- Introduction to Functions
- Linear and Quadratic Functions
- Exponential and Logarithmic Functions
- Systems of Equations
- Real World Applications

Learning Objectives:

This course fulfills the Quantitative Reasoning requirement in the Foundations category of WKU's Colonnade program. As part of that program, Math 115 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.

Specifically, students will be able to:

1. Solve linear, quadratic, exponential and logarithmic equations.
2. Graph linear, quadratic, exponential and logarithmic equations.
3. Recognize linear, quadratic, exponential and logarithmic data.
4. Perform least-square regression with linear, quadratic, exponential and logarithmic data.
5. Solve applied problems involving linear, quadratic, exponential and logarithmic functions.
6. Solve systems of equations in two variables and solve applied problems involving systems of equations.

Prerequisites: At least one of the following criteria must be met to enroll in Math 115:

- Math ACT score of 22 or better
- Math SAT score of 510 or better
- A score of 14 or better on the WKU Math Placement Exam
- Completion of DMA 096 with a grade of C or better

AGAIN....this course is designed for students entering a Non-STEM major.

Textbook: Essentials of College Algebra with Modeling & Visualization, 4th Edition, Rockswold.

MyMathLab access code is required for tests, quizzes, and homeworks.

Your courseID: not needed...register through blackboard

Graphing calculator is provided (TI 84 Silver Edition) for classroom use. TI-89s, TI-92s, and the Casio series 115s are prohibited. Cell phones may not be used as calculators.

Homework: All homework will be done on the online homework system, called MyMathLab. It will be your responsibility to keep up with your homework. Mathematics must be practiced in order to master its components. You will have an unlimited number of attempts to complete a problem, but when an assignment closes, I WILL NOT REOPEN IT!! Homework will be assigned with specific deadlines for completion for each section covered. A review for each unit exam will be included in the homework assignments. A grade of at least 80% will be necessary on each such unit review and on the final review before a student is allowed to take the corresponding exam. The reviews will NOT be a part of your homework grade. *Organizing and keeping the paper work you used to complete your homework will be beneficial in preparing for exams.*

Quizzes: These quizzes will be online quizzes using MyMathLab. You will be permitted to take these quizzes at your home during your leisure time...but these quizzes will be timed. You will be allowed a maximum of 60 minutes to complete a quiz. You need to watch your time...after 60 minutes the quiz will end whether you are done or not. I do this so that you are not just trying to open a textbook or your notes continuously....practice will help. There will be NO adjustments in the scores you receive on the quizzes, since you will be taking them in an unsecured setting....i.e. not a testing center, but your home. You will be allowed TWO attempts per quiz of which the highest score will be recorded.

Exams: All exams will be taken in an approved and proctored testing facility. All exams will be taken on a computer via the MyMathLab system. All exams will be timed and cannot be adjusted. You must submit your work to the testing facility as you leave. I will not accept work that is not submitted as you leave the facility. You must give me at least one week notice that you will be taking an exam. You must also complete the REVIEW for an exam with a minimum score of 90% before you can take an exam....not 89.5%, but 90%. Calculators will be checked before testing and applications, programs and memory may be cleared.

Students will work their exam questions on paper. The instructor will grade the written work, awarding partial credit when deemed appropriate and making any necessary grade adjustments. Each student will be allowed TWO attempts for each unit exam. A student may take only one exam per day.

Final Exam: A comprehensive final exam will be given. The final exam will be administered via the MyMathLab system. The final exam must be taken in an approved and proctored testing facility. A student is to complete all their work on paper and submit the paper to the testing center before they exit the facility. Students will **not** be allowed to retake the final exam. You must complete a review for the final before you can take the final. This review will not be a part of your grade.

The Learning Center: The Learning Center (DUC A330) provides **free** supplemental education programs for all currently enrolled WKU students. For more information, or to schedule a tutoring appointment, please call TLC at (270) 745 - 6254 or log on to their website at www.wku.edu/tlc.

Course website: We will be using WKU's Blackboard (as the homepage) and Pearson's MyMathLab as technology based instruments for this course. Class notes, assignments, and announcements will be posted there. ***Please note I want you to use your WKU EMAIL address in both the Blackboard and the MyMathLab accounts to which most course announcements will be sent.***

Course Grade: A weighted average for this course will be calculated using the following scale.

Homework	10%
Quizzes	10%
Module Exams	60% (15% each)
Final Exam	20%

Letter grades will be assigned from the weighted average using the following grading scale.

A	90 - 100
B	80 - 89
C	70 - 79
D	60 - 69
F	59 and below

Note: Although students may earn a D with a grade of 60 to 69, please be aware that many courses require a C in Math 115 as a prerequisite and several majors require a C in Math 115 to satisfy a general education requirement in mathematics.

Credit for a course in which a grade of "F" has been received can be earned only by repeating the course in residence unless prior approval is given by the head of the department in which the course was taken.

Gradebook: Grades will be posted on MyMathLab. Your overall average on MyMathLab is usually very accurate, however I reserve the right to make gradebook corrections to keep it consistent with the syllabus. If you see something that doesn't make sense, please alert me.

ADA Statement: In compliance with university policy, 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) in Downing Student Union 1074. The SARC telephone number is (270) 745-5004; TTY is (270) 745-3030. Per university policy, please DO NOT request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the SARC.

Academic Dishonesty: Students who commit any act of academic dishonesty may receive from the instructor a failing grade in that portion of the coursework in which the act is detected or a failing grade in the course without possibility of withdrawal. The faculty member may also present the case to the Office of Judicial Affairs for disciplinary sanctions.

MyMathLab Registration Instructions for

Ayers Math 115-970 On Demand beginning August 2017

If you are retaking this course: please contact me via email.

To register if you are logged into blackboard:

1. Click on the MyMathLab link within blackboard.
2. If you don't have an account, select **Create** and complete the required fields.
If you have an account **Enter** your existing Pearson account **username** and **password** to **Sign In**.
You have an account if you have used a Pearson product, for example: MyMathLab, MyITLab, MyPsychLab, MySpanishLab or Mastering, such as MasteringBiology.
3. Select an access option.
 - Use the access code that came with your textbook (if you purchased the bundle) or that you purchased separately from the bookstore.
 - Buy access using a credit card or PayPal account.
 - If available, get 14 days temporary access. (The link is near the bottom of the screen.)
4. From the confirmation page, select **Go To My Courses**.
5. On the My Courses page, select the course title **Ayers Math 115-970 On Demand beginning August 2017-August 2020** to start your work.

To sign in later directly from the blackboard, just hit the link on the left: Pearson's MyMathLab.

To sign in later directly from the website.

1. Go to www.MyMathLab.com.
2. Select **Sign In**.
3. Enter your Pearson account **username** and **password**, and **Sign In**.
4. Select the course tile **Ayers Math 115-970 On Demand beginning August 2017 - August 2020** to start your work.

To upgrade temporary access to full access:

1. Go to www.MyMathLab.com and select **Sign In**.
2. Enter your Pearson account **username** and **password**, and **Sign In**.
3. Select **Upgrade access** from the course tile **Ayers Math 115 On Demand beginning August 2017**.
4. Enter an access code or purchase access with a credit card or PayPal account.

MyMathLab Tips

General Navigation

- The timeline at the top of the homepage will help keep you on track with online homework. It shows when things were assigned and when they are due. It also indicates when announcements have been posted.
- To find lecture outlines and other materials that you should access and/or print prior to class meetings, click on the "Course Documents" link on the left-hand side of the course page.
- Homework can be found via the "Homework" link.
- The online version of the textbook is available via the "Multimedia Library" link.
- Anything involving the "Study Plan" is optional.

Completing Assignments

- Always start assignments on the day they are assigned! The **due** date is not the same thing as the **do** date!
- All online homework assignments will be posted under the "Homework" link.
- The textbook has a section of sample tests and quizzes under the "Quizzes & Tests" link. I did *not* create these, and they are completely optional. The quizzes I assign will be in a separate section under the "Quizzes and Tests" link.
- Some homework problems allow for an infinite number of attempts. Please note that just because you click the "Final Check" button for a problem, that does not *always* mean it is your last attempt; it *might* mean that it is your last attempt for **that version** of the problem. If a "Similar Exercise" button appears, that means you are still allowed to attempt that problem again!
- You can print homework assignments by selecting the Print link in the "Question Help" pulldown in the problem window. You will be given the option of printing either the active question only or the entire assignment.
- I strongly recommend that you write out any work you do while completing homework assignments. Since your quizzes/exams will be mostly paper-and-pencil, it is a good habit to establish while doing the homework. Also, this allows for easy review of your work when you are studying for exams.
- After the due date for an assignment has passed, you can no longer view it through the "Homework" link. Instead, you will need to go to the "Gradebook" link. From there, you will see a Review link for each of the graded assignments. Clicking on this link will allow you to see a list of the assignment questions, as well as whether you received full credit (indicated by a green check), no credit (indicated by a red x), or partial credit (indicated by both a check and x) for each question that you attempted.

Getting Help With Assignments

- Each homework problem will have a variety of links in the "Question Help" pulldown menu. Some will allow you to view an "Animation" or "Video" about the topic at hand. The "Textbook" link will take you to the section of the ebook that covers the material pertaining to the specific problem. **WORD OF WARNING: Becoming dependent on the "Help Me Solve This" and "View an Example" links will lead you into a false sense of security.** If you have to use those buttons on every problem, you are not really learning how to do it. You will have wonderful homework grades and then you will take a quiz or exam and your world will come crashing down, because there are no help buttons.
- The "Ask My Instructor" link allows you to email Ms. Ayers with a link to your exact problem (problem specifics sometimes vary from student to student). Clicking the "Ask My Instructor" link and just saying "I don't know how to do this" will not be acceptable. You need to attempt to explain what you tried and where you are having an issue.
- Please be aware that if you send Ms. Ayers an email with very little time left before the assignment is due, there is a good chance you will not get a reply before the assignment closes. Don't wait until the last minute to do your homework!