

Los Angeles Valley College

Department Of Mathematics

Math 115/125

Beginning and Intermediate Algebra

Spring 2016

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|-----------------------|--|
| Location : | MS 113 |
| Section : | 7453/7454 |
| Time : | 9:40 A.M. – 11:05 A.M. MTWTh |
| Text : | Elementary and Intermediate Algebra By Steven Castillo 1 st Edition; 2013; EDUCO Int |
| Instructor : | Steven Castillo |
| Office Phone : | 818-947-2862 |
| Office : | MS106A |
| e-mail : | castiljsj@lavc.edu |
| Cell Phone : | 818-645-7684 |
| Office Hours : | Monday through Thursday 11:15 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. or by appointment |

Math 115 Course Outline

Prerequisite: A grade of C or better in Math 110 or Math 112; or appropriate skill level demonstrated through the math placement process.

The course covers the real numbers and their properties; evaluating and simplifying algebraic expressions; rules of positive integer exponents; fundamental operations on polynomial, rational, and radical (index 2) expressions; polynomial factoring; solving linear, quadratic, and special polynomial equations; solving rational and radical equations; graphing a linear equation in two variables; solving a system of two linear equations in two variables; setting up and solving a variety of word problems.

Math 125 Course Outline

Prerequisite: A grade of C or better in Math 114 or Math 115; or appropriate skill level demonstrated through the math placement process.

This course reviews concepts learned in Math 115 and applies them to more complicated problems; also covers inequalities, absolute values, relations and functions, conic sections, exponential and logarithmic functions.

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Exams

Five exams will be given, along with a comprehensive final exam. Each exam will consist of 25 questions. The exams will take place during the lecture period. If you can't take an exam for any reason, you will get a score of 0 on the exam. Once you start the exam, you may not leave the room for any purpose without permission. Give the exam to the instructor and ask permission to leave. A ten point penalty on the exam will be assessed for each time you leave the room while taking an exam. Do not unstaple the exam. Unstapled exams will not be accepted. You must turn off cell phones during exams. Possessing a cell phone during an exam will result in a score of 0 on the exam. Do not bring books, cell phones, book bags, purses, etc to the exam. Enter the room with only a pencil and a calculator. Leave everything else in your car. Nothing may be on your desk besides a pencil, a calculator, an eraser, and the exam. If you come into the classroom with anything else, you will be required to leave them at the front of the classroom. Graphing calculators may not be used on exams. Sample exams are available online.

Incomplete Policy

No incomplete will be given under any circumstances, with the possible exception of a severe illness to the student or an immediate relative.

Homework

Homework is an essential aspect of the learning process and if one wants to do well in this course, then one must keep up and complete all homework assignments. Homework assignments are to be completed online or they may be completed from the book. The online assignments will be due at 9:00 p.m. on Sunday. You can take computer assignments multiple times and receive the highest score on each assignment. The homework assignments from the book will consist of every odd problem from each section in the book, including the end of chapter review exercises and chapter test. See the proposed schedule for the due dates for each chapter. There will be a 5% penalty per day for turning in late homework from the book. The score on the homework will consist of the sum of the scores on the homework from the book and online.

- All work must be done in pencil.
- Write your name, math 115/125, and date on the top right corner.
- Write the instructions, question, solution and box the answer for each question.
- Show all your work in an organized manner; if you do not show all your work, you will not receive full credit.
- Leave a blank line between problems; you may use both sides of the paper.
- Start a new section on a different paper.
- Staple all pages together. Place the staple on the upper left corner of the page. I will not grade unstapled or incorrectly stapled homework.
- Do not turn in pages torn from a spiral notebook.
- Homework will be graded based on completeness, accuracy, neatness, and format.

The following rubric will be used to grade the homework from the book: 30% for completeness, 30% for writing out the homework instructions and homework questions, and 40% for correctness (6 problems will be chosen at random and graded for the thoroughness and correctness of the solution).

Makeup Policy

If you can't take an exam for any reason, you will get a score of 0 on that exam. You can retake any exam prior to the last day of retakes listed on the important dates below. It is important that you know the course material prior to taking the final exam. Thus you will be allowed to retake any exam except for the final exam. You may not take a retake during lecture, they are to be taken during office hours or by appointment. The score on the retake will be a weighted average of the original score and the retakes. The

score is determined by the following formula, let HW be the homework average written as a decimal (if your homework average is greater than 100%, then $HW = 1$) and let TM be the average of the retakes and the original, excluding the lowest score and let Min be the minimum score of the original exam score and the retakes, then the score is $HW \times TM + (1 - HW)Min$. If you retake an exam you will need to be sure that you do your homework. The weighting on the retakes are determined by your homework. The better you do on the homework, the better the weighting on the retake. For example, suppose you get a 40% on an exam. You decide to retake it and you get 94% on the retake. You decide to retake the exam yet again and get 90% on the retake. Suppose that your homework average is 20%, then $HW = .2$, $Min = 40$, $TM = (90 + 94)/2 = 92$, and so your exam score is $.2 \times 92 + (1 - .2)40 = 50.4\%$. Whereas, suppose instead that your homework average was 98%, then $HW = .98$, $Min = 40$, $TM = 80$, and so your exam score is $.98 \times 92 + (1 - .98)40 = 90.96\%$. As can be seen by this example, if you retake exams it is very important that you do all your homework. You may not retake the final exam. Anyone found cheating during an exam will be given a score of 0 for the exam and will not be able to retake the exam.

Group Work

One of the best ways to learn mathematics is to teach it to other students. Group work will give you practice in asking other students questions on how to do problems and on answering questions from other students. At the end of class group work will be assigned. They will cover material in the book or manual on sections covered during that day's lecture. You must use loose leaf paper for this. Each group may be as large or small as you wish. However, when you turn in the assignment you will only put your name on the paper. You will be graded on the assignment as if you had completed the assignment all on your own, even though you may collaborate with students during group work.

Hybrid online meetings on cccconfer.org

We will have an online session every Friday and Saturday from 9:00-11:30 am. You can use the direct link: <http://www.cccconfer.org/GoToMeeting?SeriesID=4e3e6865-4c04-4aac-9ace-4bb3740aba3f>

1. Go to www.cccconfer.org
2. Click the "Join a Class or Meeting".
3. Locate the meeting titled "Steven Castillo - Math 115 – 125" and click Connect.
4. Fill out the form and enter the password: 847476. When you fill out the form use your real name.

If you are unable to view the session live, you can view it at any other time after it is posted.

1. Go to www.cccconfer.org
2. Click the "Watch a Recording".
3. Locate the meeting titled "Steven Castillo - Math 115 – 125" and click Go.
4. Fill out the form and click go.

Class Attendance

The only students who may attend class are those who have been admitted to the college and are in approved active status and who are registered for the class. Students are expected to attend every meeting of all classes for which they are registered. Violation of this will result in exclusion from this class as specified in Administrative Regulation E-13. Provisions of Administrative Regulation E-13 include the following:

1. Students who have registered for a class and who do not attend the first meeting of the class forfeit their right to a place in the class.
2. Whenever absences exceed the equivalent of 4 classes, the instructor will exclude the student from the class.
3. Three cases of tardiness or leaving during class time will be considered equivalent to one absence.
4. It is the student's responsibility to consult with the instructor regarding any absences that would alter the student's status in the class.

Students are ultimately responsible for dropping the class should they choose to do so. Failure to do so may result in a grade of “F” in the class.

Computer Assignments

You must register the software in order to complete the assignments on the computer. Homework and quiz assignments have been assigned for the semester and can be viewed online. You can complete the computer assignments on campus computers. You can complete the online assignments at home, but you may need to install Flash and you will need to allow the pop-ups for the EducoSoft website. It is best to use either Internet Explorer or Firefox to complete the online assignments. After purchasing the book, you can register the software with the code included in the book. You can also purchase the book code online at <https://www.educosoft.com/>. You can register your software using the course code EYXBGAPG. Do not purchase a used copy of the book. If you purchase a used book, you will need to purchase a book code. A book code will cost around \$50 and includes access to a pdf version of the book.

Guest Registration

At the Educosoft login page <https://www.educosoft.com/>, select the Portal and click on Higher Education link. You will be redirected to Student Registration Page as shown below.

https://www.educosoft.com/Home/US/es_uh_register.aspx



REGISTER NOW

STUDENT REGISTRATION

Do you have a Class code from your Instructor?

If not, ask your instructor if he or she will be providing a class code.

Yes, I have a Class code

Enter the class code provided by your instructor (This code is different from access code purchased from bookstore).

Sample Class Code: Y45XVRR8

No, I do not have a class code

Select the radio button “Yes, I have a Class Code”. Enter the Class Code, EYXBGAPG, once done click on Go → button. Click on the Register As Guest button to register yourself as a guest for the above course.

REGISTER NOW

STUDENT REGISTRATION

Do you have a Class code from your Instructor?

If not, ask your instructor if he or she will be providing a class code.

Yes, I have a Class code

Enter the class code provided by your instructor (This code is different from access code purchased from bookstore).

Sample Class Code: Y45XVRR8

State:

Institution:

Term:

Course: [View Course](#)

Section:

Instructor Name: Steven Castillo

Location: MS 113

Time: 9:40-11:05 MTWTh

Free Time:

You will be taken to “Register Now” page. If you are new to Educsoft (haven’t registered for Educsoft in the past), then click on “Sign up and Continue” link. Fill in the necessary information, once done click on “Create Account and Continue” link. If you are a returning user (already registered in Educsoft), you can enter your login details and click on “Login and Continue” link.

REGISTER NOW

[Back](#)

| I am new to Educsoft | I am a returning student |
|---|--|
| If you are a new user and you have not registered your email-id with Educsoft in the past, then click on Signup and Continue. | If you are registered with Educsoft already, then enter your email and password and click on login and Continue |
| | Note: Your email is registered with Educsoft because 1. You have taken a course in Educsoft before. OR 2. You were guest registered by your instructor. |
| <input type="button" value="Signup & Continue"/> | Email: <input type="text"/> Password: <input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Login & Continue"/> |

[Back](#)

Account & Contact info

Student Information is used to login to the site. Please save your password in a safe place.

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Student Id | <input type="text" value="1234ABCD"/> |
| *Student First Name: | <input type="text" value="User"/> |
| *Student Last Name: | <input type="text" value="Test123"/> |
| *Student E-Mail: | <input type="text" value="usertest123@educo.edu"/> |
| *Re-Enter Your Email: | <input type="text" value="usertest123@educo.edu"/> |
| *Create a Personal Password: | <input type="password" value="*****"/> (at least 6 chars long) |
| *Re-Enter Your Password: | <input type="password" value="*****"/> |
| *Phone: | <input type="text" value="8454226621"/> |

You will be registered as a Guest for a period of 14 Days. You should see the following information.

Register Successfully

Thank you for Guest Registration.

An e-mail confirmation will be sent to: usertest123@educo.edu

Your login information has been sent to the email address you have entered

[click here](#) to login (Use the email and password you have provided during online registration)

Disclaimer–Subject To Change

Please be advised that this syllabus is subject to change at anytime at the sole discretion of the instructor.

Financial Aid

Financial Aid is available! Call (818) 947-2412. Go to the Financial Aid Office in the Student Services Center, first floor. For more info: <http://www.lavc.edu/financialaid/index.html>.

Extra Credit

You can obtain extra credit from the following categories.

Group Work: You can obtain extra credit by entering questions into the computer database. First, submit a hard copy of the question. A question will consist of the instructions, the question, four options for answers (one of which is the correct answer option), the solution and at least

four versions of the same question. To enter questions into the computer, use math115125@lavc.edu as the email and math115125 as the password. You will select Course Tools > Assessments > My Question Bank. Select the section to input the question. For example, if you wish to enter a question relating to literal equations for volumes, then you would traverse the directory tree to section 2.5 (Literal Equations). Click on the input question number, such as volume, and then the add question button. Enter the question, along with the answers and the solution. You will obtain up to 10 extra points for each question entered into the computer. Your group work average cannot be more than 150%.

Homework: You can obtain extra credit by spending time on the computer tutorials. In addition, you will obtain up to 10 extra points for each error found in either the book or computer. Your homework average cannot be more than 150%.

Exams: There is no extra credit on the exams.

Final Exam: There is no extra credit on the final exam.

What Is Expected From You As A Student

It is essential that you always attend lecture. You should read the section that is to be lectured on before you go to class. You should always complete the assignment that is due for that day before coming to class. It is extremely important that one does not fall behind in course work, since mathematics is a cumulative subject. If you are having trouble with a concept immediately seek help, don't expect that you will be able to learn the subject the night before the final. Tutoring is available in the Math Lab, Learning and Academic Resource Center 226 and 227. Anyone caught cheating on an exam will receive a score of 0 on that exam. Do not come to class with cell phones or pagers. Anyone caught using a cell phone, pager or receiving a call during class will be asked to leave class for the day.

Curve

| | | | |
|----|--------------|------------------------|---|
| A | : 90% - 100% | Monday, February 15: | No class |
| A- | : 85% - 90% | Thursday, February 18: | Last day to request religious accomodation |
| B+ | : 80% - 85% | Friday, February 19: | Last day to add a class |
| B | : 75% - 80% | Sunday, February 21: | Last day to drop without W |
| B- | : 70% - 75% | Thursday, February 25: | First Exam |
| C+ | : 65% - 70% | Thursday, March 17: | Second Exam |
| C | : 60% - 65% | Wednesday, March 30: | Third Exam |
| C- | : 55% - 60% | March 31 – April 8: | No class (online sessions will still be held) |
| D | : 40% - 55% | Thursday, May 5: | Fourth Exam |
| F | : 0% - 40% | Sunday, May 8: | Last day to drop with W |
| | | Monday, May 30: | No class |
| | | Thursday, May 20: | Last day to take exam retakes |
| | | Thursday, May 26: | Fifth Exam |
| | | Tuesday, May 31: | Math 115 Final Exam (9:30-11:30) |
| | | Monday, June 6: | Math 125 Final Exam (9:30-11:30) |

Grading Categories

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Group Work : | 5% |
| Homework : | 5% |
| Tutorials : | 5% |
| Exams : | 55% |
| Final Exam : | 30% |

Plagiarism And Student Conduct

Plagiarism is the use of others' words and/or ideas without clearly acknowledging their source. When you incorporate those words and ideas into your own work, you must give credit where credit is due. Plagiarism, intentional or unintentional, is considered academic dishonesty and is not tolerated. Anyone found to be plagiarizing or cheating on assignments (e.g., copying or giving answers, using 'crib' sheets, etc.) will (1) receive a zero (fail) on the assignment, and (2) be referred to the Vice President of Student Services for further disciplinary action, following due process. For further information on plagiarism, go to the Writing Center website (<http://www.lavc.edu/writingcenter/handouts/plagiarism.html>) and refer to the STANDARDS OF STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION in the current Schedule of Classes and Catalog.

Amount Of Work

California standards state that one unit of credit will require 3 hours of work per week by the student. Thus, a 10 unit course should demand, in addition to the traditional 10 hours of lecture per week, 20 hours of reading, writing, or homework.

Accommodation

If you are a student with a disability requiring classroom accommodations, and have not contacted SSD, do so in a timely manner. SSD is located in the Student Services Annex, Room 175 or call SSD at (818) 947-2681 or TTD (818) 947-2680 to meet with a SSD counselor. If SSD has already sent the memo to me, the instructor, confirming accommodations required by the student for this class, please meet with me to discuss arrangements.

Religious Accommodations

1. Students requesting religious accommodations are required to provide written notice for a religious accommodation within the first two weeks of class.
2. The student must provide a letter from a pastor, rabbi, minister, etc verifying the religious observance.
3. Absence for religious observance shall not impact the student's participation grade.
4. Accommodations may include giving students an opportunity to make up a test or other assignment, or rescheduling a test for the entire class.

Prerequisite

A grade of C or better in Math 110 or Math 112; or appropriate skill level demonstrated through the math placement process. You may not obtain an add permit from your instructor if you do not satisfy the prerequisite.

Disclaimer – Adult Content Is Covered In This Course

Please be advised that you have enrolled in a college-level course. The content of the course, and the discussions surrounding the lessons, may contain controversial, sexual, religious and political content, or otherwise thought-provoking topics. We reserve the right to edit inappropriate language that may appear in this course.

No Eating Or Drinking In Classrooms

1. Students are not allowed to eat or to bring open food containers into the classroom.
2. Students are not allowed to bring open liquid containers into the classroom. You can bring coffee with a lid, but one spill incident will result in "no coffee with lid" in the classroom subsequently.
3. Do not leave trash in the classroom. Throw out your trash in the trash bins in the hallway. However, throw out any food or food containers in the trash bins outside of the building.

- No gum chewing is allowed in the classroom. Gum should be thrown in the trash bins, not deposited under the desks or chairs.

Math Lab

The Math Lab provides free tutoring in mathematics for all actively enrolled LA Valley College students. A valid LA Valley College ID is required for entrance. The Math Lab will open on Tuesday February 15. The Math Lab is open 9:45 A.M. – 6:30 P.M. MTWTh (closing late 9:45 A.M. – 8:00 P.M on TW) and it is open 11:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. Saturday. In addition to walk in tutoring, one-on-one tutoring, the lab also provides free access to math textbooks, student solution manuals and computers. The math lab is located in the Library and Academic Resource Center (LARC) 226 and LARC 227 at 818-947-7263. You can call to set up a one-on-one tutoring by calling 818-947-7263 up to 3 days in advance. Students willing to be tutored in a group of 2 or more classmates may make an appointment up to 7 days in advance.

Math 115 Course Level Objectives

Evaluate, simplify and perform the fundamental operations on algebraic expressions
 Factor polynomial expressions
 Solve linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational and index 2 radical equations
 Solve a system of 2 linear equations in 2 variables
 Set up and solve various types of word problems

Math 125 Course Level Objectives

Apply Math 115 concepts and techniques to more complicated problems
 Solve a system of 3 linear equations in 3 variables using various methods
 Solve polynomial, rational, radical, and absolute value equations and inequalities
 Express solution sets graphically and using interval notation
 Identify, analyze, and graph equations of lines, circles, parabolas, ellipses, hyperbolas, exponentials and logarithms
 Identify relations and functions, find the domain and range, sketch graphs, and find inverses
 Solve exponential and logarithmic equations and applications

Resources Needed

- Two #2 lead pencils. To be used during the exam.
- A packet of loose leaf paper. To be used for groupwork. This will also be used for those students who do homework from the book.
- One spiral notebook. This will be used for taking notes. You will not use this for groupwork or for homework. Any homework or groupwork given from torn pages of a spiral notebook will not be accepted.
- You may also want an eraser and pencil sharpener that can be used during exams.

Math 115 Student Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to think analytically and read critically to solve elementary algebra level mathematical problems.

Math 125 Student Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to think analytically at a level appropriate to intermediate algebra.
 Students will be able to think and read critically to solve intermediate algebra level mathematical problems.

Exam Review Schedule

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Friday, February 19 | Review for exam 1 on cccconfer.org 7:00pm-9:00pm |
| Friday, March 11 | Review for exam 2 on cccconfer.org 7:00pm-9:00pm |
| Friday, March 25 | Review for exam 3 on cccconfer.org 7:00pm-9:00pm |
| Friday, April 29 | Review for exam 4 on cccconfer.org 7:00pm-9:00pm |
| Friday, May 20 | Review for exam 5 on cccconfer.org 7:00pm-9:00pm |
| Friday, May 27 | Review for Math 115 final exam on cccconfer.org 7:00pm-9:00pm |
| Saturday, May 28 | Review for Math 125 final exam on cccconfer.org 7:00pm-9:00pm |

Book homework due dates

| | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Wednesday, February 10 | Chapter 1 |
| Thursday, February 18 | Chapter 2 |
| Wednesday, February 24 | Chapter 3 |
| Wednesday, March 2 | Chapter 4 |
| Wednesday, March 9 | Chapter 5 |
| Tuesday, March 15 | Chapter 6 |
| Tuesday, March 22 | Chapter 7 |
| Monday, March 28 | Chapter 8 |
| Monday, April 11 | Chapter 9 |
| Monday, April 18 | Chapter 10 |
| Thursday, April 28 | Chapter 11 |
| Tuesday, May 3 | Chapter 12 |
| Monday, May 9 | Chapter 13 |
| Thursday, May 18 | Chapter 14 |
| Monday, May 30 | Chapter 15 |