

Beginning Algebra

Math 110 AB
Daily 10:10 - 11:00

Instructor: Rick Hough
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Website: <http://www.smccd.net/accounts/hough/index.html>

Materials: *Elementary Algebra, Graphs and Applications*, by J. Lehmann. We will cover chapters 1 through 6, and part of 7. A TI-84+ (TI-83+ is okay) graphing calculator, graphing paper, and a see-through straight edge are required for the course.

Office: My office is in building 2, room 2307. My office hours will be MWF 9:10 - 10:00 and TTh 11:10 - 12:00. Since my classes are in Pacific Heights, I may be late for the TTh office hour, and I will have to leave promptly on the hour to make it to class on time.

Attendance: Attendance on time is expected and required. If you know you will be absent, tell me before hand and get the assignment or call one of your classmates. Falling behind in a math class just doesn't work. Irregular attendance is grounds for being dropped.

Homework: The only way to learn math is to practice doing problems correctly after you have figured out how to do them. The tentative homework assignment sheet gives the problems you will work for homework. Each assignment is due the class after we finish that section. I will try to let you know when we finish a section and so the homework is due next time, but sometimes I am so excited to start a new section, that I forget. It is up to you to follow along well enough so that you realize that we have finished a section! If you turn in homework late, you will receive half of the points for it. Often, just doing the assigned homework is not enough practice to prepare for exams. If you need to, please feel free to work more problems! The homework and quizzes together count for 15% of your grade in the class. If your exam and final average are not above 70.0%, then homework will not be counted in your grade.

Quizzes: Some days when homework is due, I will start the class with a short "pop" quiz. These will be unannounced, and will be a problem straight out of the homework. Some days we will have a "group" quiz in which you will work together with three other classmates for about 45 minutes working on problems. They will cover the material from the sections you are currently working on, or sometimes will help to introduce new material. There will be no make-up quizzes. Quizzes and homework together count for 15% of your grade in the class. If your exam and final average are not above 70.0%, then quizzes will not be counted in your grade.

Exams: There will be approximately 5 exams. You are allowed to bring in one 3 inch by 5 inch note card to each exam. There will be no make-up exams, but your lowest score will be worth half as much as each of your higher exams. The book provides review problems and practice exams to help you prepare, but do as many problems in addition to these to make sure the concepts are clear and the problems are easy. You must practice enough until the problems are easy since the stress level during an exam is higher than while doing homework. Exams will count for 65% of your grade in the class.

Final: The final exam will be given on Monday, Dec 17 from 8:10 - 10:40 and will be held in our classroom. The final is cumulative and will count for 20% of your grade.

Grading: To get a C in this class, you must have a C average on the exams and the final. The homework and quiz grades will not enable a student to pass who has not, on average, passed the exams and final. The only way you can receive a passing grade without, on average, passing the exams and final, is if you have at least 70.0% including everything, and your grade on the final is at least 75%. All letter grades will be determined by the following standard grading curve:

$\text{grade} \geq 90.0\%$	A
$80.0\% \leq \text{grade} < 90.0\%$	B
$70.0\% \leq \text{grade} < 80.0\%$	C
$60.0\% \leq \text{grade} < 70.0\%$	D
$\text{grade} < 60.0\%$	F

Important Dates:

Sep 5 → last day to drop with a refund.

Sep 14 → last day to drop.

Nov 20 → last day to withdraw

Dec 17 → Final Exam.