

## Cañada College

### Math 811AC Pre-Algebra Syllabus Spring 2010

Mondays and Wednesdays 9:45 am – 11:00 am Room 22-118

**Instructor:** Raymond M. Lapuz

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**Office Hours:** Mondays 2:30-3:30pm at the Learning Center and by arrangement.

**Course Description:** Covers the fundamental processes in arithmetic: reading mathematical notation, translating words into symbols, and properties of the real number system. Introduction to geometry and algebra. Units do not apply toward AA/AS degree.

**Prerequisite:** None.

#### **Required Materials:**

**Text:** Basic Mathematics through Applications , Akst & Bragg, 4th Edition.

**Calculator:** Calculators may be used after Chapter 4.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** By the end of this course, you will be able to...

1. Simplify expressions using mathematical operations using order of operations.
2. Simplify expressions involving fractions.
3. Set up and solve a proportion problem.
4. Solve problems involving percentages.
5. Finding an unknown quantity from a geometric figure.
6. Perform mathematical operations using signed numbers.
7. Translate verbal expressions into math and solve.
8. Gain confidence in their math skills and abilities.

**Attendance:** Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class meeting. Absences and tardies will be noted and I reserve the right to drop any student who is consistently absent or late.

**The Learning Center and the Math Lab:** Cañada College has an excellent well-staffed Learning Center in the second floor of building 9. There are individual tutors available. There are also very capable drop in tutors in the Math Lab

#### **Academic Integrity Statement:**

Don't cheat! Cheating is a violation of academic integrity. A student caught cheating will receive a failing grade for the assignment in question and a report will be submitted to the Vice President of Student Services. Any other occurrences of cheating will result in more serious reprimands.

**Your course grade will be based on the following:**

Homework	10%
Mastery Exams	80%
TBA and Worksheets	5%
Class Participation	5%

**Homework:** Homework will be completed online. There will be a homework set for each section covered in class; each assignment will have between 5 to 20 problems. More will be discussed in class.

**Mastery Exams:** Exams will be given in class at the end of every one or two chapters. In order to pass an exam, you will need to score at least 80% (no partial credit will be given). If you do not pass, you will receive a 0% for the exam; if you pass, your score will be 100%. You are allowed unlimited tries on Mastery Exams which you can take outside of class in the Math Lab/Learning Center. Before retaking a test, you will need to see a tutor to review all of the problems that you missed.

**TBA and Worksheets:** This course requires you to spend two “To Be Arranged” hours per week. This requirement will be satisfied by attending study groups at the Learning Center and completing worksheets. The worksheets are problems that come from the textbook and will provide more practice for preparing for the Mastery Exams. More details will be discussed in class.

**Class work and Participation:** Your participation includes class work and attendance. We will have assignments or problems in class to be worked on individually or in small groups. Class work cannot be made up if missed. Using electronic devices such as cell phones, leaving class early, arriving late, sleeping, and doing work for other classes are examples of things that can lower your class work & participation grade. Your lowest two scores will be dropped.

**A following grading scheme will apply:**

Overall Grade	Overall Percent
A	95% and above
B	90% - 94%
C	80% - 89%
D	60% - 79%
F	below 60%

**Special Assignment:**

Write about your background in math, beginning as far back as you can remember. Describe successes, failures, pleasant experiences, frustrations, and your confidence in your math abilities in the past and present. Discuss your strengths and weaknesses, and how they were developed. Also, describe what kind of math you see yourself doing in the future.

*I hear ... and I forget.  
I see ... and I remember.  
I do ... and I understand.*

-Anonymous