Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi  
Department of Mathematics & Statistics  
Introduction to Algebra – M398.002  
Fall Semester – 2012

I. COURSE INFORMATION

Meeting Time and Place:  CI 222 on MWF @ 10:00am-10:50  
Instructor: T. Friedrichs  
E-MAIL: tfriedrichs@tamucc.edu  
Office Address: CI 308  
Office hours: MWF 8:10-8:50

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course is designed for students needing an extensive review of mathematics to prepare them for state & campus standards and/or higher mathematics courses. The course covers number concepts, computation, various algebra topics, geometry, and mathematical reasoning. This course does not count towards credit for graduation.

III. PREREQUISITES

There is no prerequisite for this course. Registration for this course will be by placement or scores on the THEA.

IV. TEXT AND OTHER SUPPLIES REQUIRED

The textbook for the class is Developmental Mathematics, by Elayn Martin-Gay (which is optional) and My Math Lab student access code (required on day 1).  
In addition, you will need a pencil with eraser, spiral notebook for working out problems, a and a four-function calculator.

V. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the semester, the student will be able to show mastery for the following by passing with a 65% correct or better on post tests:

1. Perform basic operations with numbers and expressions and understand the properties related to real numbers
2. Round whole numbers and decimal numbers to a given place-value and convert between decimal numbers, fractions and percents
3. Evaluate formulas containing numbers and variables using order of operation
4. Use function notation and identify domain and range given a relation or function.
5. Simplify algebraic expressions containing monomial, binomial, or polynomial expressions, rational and radical expressions and complex fractions.
6. Use properties of exponents to interpret and simplify integral and rational exponents
7. Convert between scientific and standard notation and use scientific notation in solving word problems
8. Factor numbers and algebraic expressions (radicals, monomials, binomials and polynomials) includes finding a GCF or LCM
9. Perform basic operations (add, subtract, multiply and divide) with monomials, binomials, polynomials, and rational & radical expressions including rationalizing denominators
10. Solve equations and inequalities of various types (linear, absolute value, rational, radical, and quadratic as well as linear systems) and report in various ways including graphs, sets, or interval notation.
11. Translate word problems and write models in the form of equations or inequalities
12. Solve word problems (percent, consecutive number, work, age, uniform motion, mixture, geometric, and financial) using a variety of techniques.
13. Determine the measure of angles or sides for plane figures and relate parallel line properties and characteristics of plane figures to similar and congruent figures
14. Convert metric and customary measurement (length, mass and capacity)
15. Read charts and graphs and use the information to solve problems
16. Name and graph points in a plane or number line and name x- & y-intercepts for linear or nonlinear graphs or equations (including the vertex of a parabola)
17. Recognize, write equations and inequalities for vertical, horizontal and sloped lines and graph
18. Find the slope of a line give two points, a graph or an equation for the line.
19. Write equations and inequalities given a graph, two points or the slope and a point using point-slope, slope-intercept or standard form.
20. Compare slopes and write equations with parallel or perpendicular lines given an equation and a point or a slope and a point.

VI. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES

This course is a self-paced developmental math course designed to use computer assisted instruction (my math lab) to remediate math deficiencies for students who lack college readiness skills. It has the advantage of being able to cover two semesters of material in only one semester. It will promote college readiness habits such as: persistence, accuracy, questioning strategies and flexible thinking. Students will first take a pretest for a module. If the student scores at least an 85%, then they may attempt the pretest of the next module and there score will be posted as a post test score for that module. If not, the student will then begin working independently on MY MATH LAB (videos, power points and homework) with the tutors and instructor giving assistance to remediate any problem areas. When ready, the student may take the practice test to evaluate if there is need for more instruction (made less than 85%) and begin work on the study plan. When the instructor deems the student ready, the post test for that module may be taken. These must be proctored with no notes or outside help (assistance from tutors or peers).
VII. EVALUATION AND GRADE ASSIGNMENT

- 80% based on Post-test scores
- 10% based on homework & study plan
- 10% based on in-class work, participation & attendance

Students must complete 6 or more modules to receive a passing grade for M0398; otherwise a grade of IP will be given.

Grading scale:
- A = 90% or more
- B = 80% - 89%
- C = 69.5% - 79%

If a student completes all 12 modules with a passing grade, they will be placed in College algebra and no longer be THEA liable.

VIII. TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Tentative schedule to receive a grade for Math 0398 only and moving on to M0399 in spring term.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Modules</th>
<th>Weeks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>Weeks 1-4</td>
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<td>Modules 3</td>
<td>Weeks 5-6</td>
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<td>Module 4</td>
<td>Weeks 7-9</td>
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<td>Module 5</td>
<td>Weeks 10-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Modules 6 &amp; at least begin 7</td>
<td>Weeks 13-15</td>
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</tbody>
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Tentative schedule for receiving a grade for M0398 and being placed in college algebra next term.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Modules</th>
<th>Weeks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,2</td>
<td>Weeks 1-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Modules 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Weeks 3-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Modules 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>Weeks 6-7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Modules 7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Weeks 8-9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Modules 9 &amp; 10</td>
<td>Weeks 10-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 11 &amp; 12</td>
<td>Weeks 13-15</td>
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</tbody>
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IX. CLASS POLICIES

Attendance:
1. I expect each student to attend all classes. Attendance is mandatory. Please save absences for emergencies and illness.
2. If you are more than 15 minutes tardy or if you leave more than 5 minutes before the end of class you are considered absent.
3. All absences are considered unexcused unless a written excuse or documentation is made available to me in a timely manner and accepted.
4. If you must leave early inform me prior to the beginning of class or if you must be absent please email me through coursecompass.
Participation:
1. Participation is required in homework, study plan and written work. This includes notes taken from power points or videos, study plan and other work on course compass.
2. Students found to be working on material other than mathematics during class will be given a zero for that day’s participation. This will include those using class time for personal business like emails or texting. Cell phones will be turned off and put away during class.
3. Staying on task and completing an appropriate amount of work will be noted each day by the instructor and/or tutors. A participation grade will be entered weekly for each student based on their individual work and effort. My Math Lab records any skills completed so that you may keep a daily record of your progress.
4. Students will report on their own progress and set goals in written form every Friday for the first 3 weeks of the semester. This will include comments about problem areas and skills mastered during that week. Your progress will be emailed to your instructor for review.

Academic Honesty:
1. University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, forgery or plagiarism. In relation to the post tests, this will include cheat sheets or notes and asking for assistance while testing. Students will be allowed a standard formula sheet.
2. Students caught cheating on tests are subject to dismissal from the class and possibly the university.
3. Students caught using notes or other aids on tests will receive a zero for that test that would be part of their average for the course.

Responsibility:
1. You are responsible for obtaining required supplies and bringing them to class. This will include the Mymathlab access code required to begin work (those with a code from a previous semester should not have to purchase a new code (check with your instructor prior to day 1 of the course).
2. You are responsible for organizing your time so that you can study at least 1 hour each day outside of class and completing an appropriate amount of work during class. The total number of hours should be approximately 9 hours per week. Some students will require more to finish the material.
3. You are responsible for any assigned homework or writings, taking tests, watching and taking notes from videos and power points and working on the study plan.
4. You are responsible for your actions during class and for keeping the learning environment quiet so others can complete their work. Keep personal conversations to a minimum. Keep voices low and unobtrusive. Turn off and put away all cell phones. You may use headphones to listen to videos or power points in class or if needed to block out noise while you concentrate on your work.
5. You are responsible for your own learning, therefore, you should come prepared with questions you need answered. Keep up with what you need to do and set appropriate goals for yourself. Our goal is for you to be an independent learner by the end of the semester.
X. Notice to Students with Disabilities

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, located in Driftwood 101, at 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

XI. Grade Appeal Process

As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule: 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

XII. Important Dates

1. First day of class 8/22
2. Last day to add a class 8/27
3. Labor Day holiday 9/3
4. Last day to drop a class 11/2
5. Thanksgiving holiday 11/22-23
6. Last day to withdraw from University 12/3
7. Last class day 12/4
8. See New schedule for completing module tests