

## Math 011 (Online or in class) – Beginning Algebra – Fall 2009 – Syllabus

**Instructor:** Wally Axmann

**Phone:** 316-978-3969

**Text:** *Introductory Algebra 10<sup>th</sup> Ed.*, Bittinger (all chapters)

**Class Website:** <http://www.math.wichita.edu/~axmann>

**Office:** Jabara Hall 368

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**Office Hours:** MWF 9:00-10:00 and by appt.

### Attendance

Class meets online and in class M-F 10:30-11:20. Most classes will start with a question and answer session. This is your primary opportunity to ask questions and may take about half of class time if you have lots of questions. I will cover new material during the remainder of class time. These class sessions will be recorded and posted on the class website so that you can print the notes and/or watch them as a movie.

### Homework

Doing homework is the most important way to learn the material. General university guidelines suggest 2 hours of homework for each hour in class. There is a homework assignment due essentially every day of class. Homework will count for 30% of your course grade. Homework will be due at 10:30 each day. I will give one-week extensions on up to 7 homework assignments for each student, no questions asked. Just send me an email to request an extension. *Other late homework will not be accepted.*

### Online Homework

All of the homework for this class is online. You will need to purchase a **new** Course Compass access key. You may purchase it at the bookstore with or without a book or online at [www.coursecompass.com](http://www.coursecompass.com) (\$65). Either way you will also need the Course ID which is axmann84951. Further instruction can be found on the class website on the “Getting Started” page.

### Written Homework

The online homework has a lot of nice features, but it cannot help you practice writing clear and complete math solutions – which you need to do to pass this, and future, classes. (All in person tests for this class will require you to correctly show your work to all problems on paper.) Because of this, I strongly recommend that for most online problems you also show your work on paper. You can do this by printing out the assignment and writing on the printouts or by keeping a notebook next to your computer as you solve the problems online. If you keep this written work organized in a notebook, it makes a great resource when studying for tests. Since the written homework will not be graded, you should also compare your written solutions to the examples in the book, in class, and in the homework help system to make sure you are writing everything correctly.

### Tests

There will be six, one-hour, tests. Test dates will be: Sept 8, Sept 24, Oct 12, Nov 2, Nov 17, and Dec 7. You can choose to take the tests online or in person. *If you must miss a test, you need to let me know about it and make it up before it is scheduled to take place. The only exceptions to this policy are unpredictable accidents and emergencies, which must be documented and made up within a week.*

### Online Tests

If you take a test online, it will be worth 5% of your grade. The online tests will be taken at [www.coursecompass.com](http://www.coursecompass.com), just like the homework.

### In Person Tests

If you take a test in person, it will be worth 7% of your grade.

### Midterm and Final Exam

The Midterm and Final Exams will make up the remaining 28% to 40% of your grade. The final will be worth 25%, the midterm will make up the remaining 3% to 15%. (See “Optional Midterm” below for an exception.) They will be taken on paper in a classroom on the WSU campus. They will each be 2 hours long and consist of about 30-40 problems each. You will be expected to show the complete solution to each problem (not just the “answer”) – just like the examples in the book, in class, and in the homework help system. The Midterm will be on Saturday, Oct 17 at 1:00-2:50pm. The Final Exam will be on Saturday, Dec 12 at 1:00-2:50pm. The Mathematics Department requires a certain minimum score on the final exam to receive credit in this course.

### Optional Midterm

The Midterm exam is optional for those students who take one or none of their six regular tests online. In that case, the final will be worth 28% (if you take no online tests) or 30% (if you take one online test).

### Calculators

I encourage you to use a calculator as little as possible. I expect you to write solutions in exact form – not rounded decimals (like  $\frac{1}{3}$  not 0.333... and  $\sqrt{2}$  not 1.41...). I also expect complete solutions – not just the “answer”.

*Calculators are not allowed on the Midterm and Final Exams*, so it would be best if you get use to doing most of your work without a calculator. However, there are a few parts of the course where a simple calculator can be useful. (You can get a simple calculator for under \$5 or use the one on your computer when you need one.)

### Grading: Points Distribution

	Number of Online tests taken							No Midterm	
	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	1	0
Homework	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
Online Tests	6*5= 30	5*5= 25	4*5= 20	3*5= 15	2*5= 10	1*5= 5	1*7= 0	1*5= 5	1*7= 0
In Person Tests	0*7= 0	1*7= 7	2*7= 14	3*7= 21	4*7= 28	5*7= 35	6*7= 42	5*7= 35	6*7= 42
Midterm	15	13	11	9	7	5	3	0	0
Final	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	30	28
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

### Grading: Grading Scale

The following grading scale will be used for the course:

CR (credit) 100-70

NC (no credit) Below 70

Note however: The Mathematics Department requires a certain minimum score on the final exam to receive credit in this course.

Official Statement on Academic Integrity from <http://webs.wichita.edu/senate/pol63.htm>

A standard of honesty, fairly applied to all students, is essential to a learning environment. Students violating such standards must accept the consequences, and penalties are assessed by appropriate classroom instructors or other designated persons. Serious cases may result in discipline at the college/school or university level and may result in suspension or dismissal. Students accused of abridging a standard of integrity may protect themselves through established academic appeal procedures and are assured due process and the right of appeal from accusations or penalties felt to be unjust.

My Policy in short: Any breach of academic integrity will result in a zero for the affected assignment(s) – serious breaches may result in a grade of “XF” for the course.

An additional note about cheating in this online course:

An online course like this one provides students with many new ways to cheat – the homework and six online tests are not monitored at all. Taking advantage of that fact not only reflects on your character, it also shows poor judgment. This is a Credit/No Credit remedial course designed to get you ready for future math classes. This class does not impact your GPA at all, cheating will not get you ready for future classes, and it will become obvious to your instructors: on the midterm, on the final, in Math 012, in Math 111, etc... Put your best, honest effort into this class and you will get the most for your time and your money.