An introduction to the notion of algebra and its uses. Includes integers, equations, and polynomials as well as topics from arithmetic. Designed as a transition from arithmetic to elementary algebra.

Welcome to Pre-Algebra

Course Website: faculty.rcc.edu/frewing
Email address: Janet.frewing@rcc.edu

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Apply the four basic operations to integers and rational numbers.
2. Apply the fundamental laws of algebra to simplify basic algebraic expressions.
3. Perform the four basic operations on polynomial expressions.
4. Solve linear equations.
5. Derive and solve basic linear equations from elementary applications.
6. Use the symbols and vocabulary of pre-algebra to communicate mathematical concepts.

Course Requirements

Attendance

Attendance to the lectures is very important. You are expected to attend all classes. If you must miss a class, you will be responsible for obtaining all missed material.

Homework

Each class will begin with a review of homework questions. You are encouraged to make corrections and clarify any topics that are not understood. Several problems will be assigned from each section. Refer to the course website for a list of assigned problems and due dates. Homework needs to be given to me in a pocket folder with your name at the upper right outside corner. Make sure that each section is easily found in the pocket folder...be neat and organized.

Late homework: Homework can be turned in up to one week from it’s posted due date, otherwise you will get no credit for the homework.

To earn full credit, you need to show all your work on the paper.

In Class Activity

Every class session will include an in-class activity. In class activities are designed to help the student apply the material prior to leaving class. In class activities must be turned in at the end of class. No make up activities will be given.

Tests

We will have five tests throughout the semester. There will be a cumulative final exam at the end of the course.
Important Resources

Office Hours: Located in my office! I have time set aside for you to come in for help. Please use this time.

Math LAB: Located in ST 101, the math lab is an invaluable resource for students who would like extra help from both math tutors and math instructors. The Math LAB is available to all students enrolled in a math course.

Tutorial Services: RCC offers up to three hours per week of free tutoring to each student. Often a tutor makes all the difference in your understanding. Please call (951) 372-7143 to make an appointment early.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic integrity is something I take very seriously. Cheating of any kind will not be accepted or ignored! Anyone caught cheating on any assignment will be given a zero for the assignment and will be reported to the College for possible further disciplinary action. It should be noted: letting someone copy your work (homework/quiz/exam) or the use of electronic devices during an exam are just some examples of cheating. If you are caught letting some copy, you will receive the same treatment as the person copying.

Retention of Assignments

It is the student’s responsibility to keep all assignments, quizzes and exams for the duration of the semester. All grades are entered by hand and the possibility of an incorrect entry is very real. I will always assume that I am perfect and make absolutely no mistakes entering scores unless you can prove to me that I have made a mistake. Your only proof that a grade has been entered incorrectly is the assignment itself, with my handwritten score on it. As you already know, or soon will figure out, I am far from perfect; therefore I will happily change any grades in my gradebook I have entered incorrectly.

Special Needs

Riverside Community College offers a comprehensive program of support services to students with a documented disability. If you wish to utilize these services, it is your responsibility to sign up with DSPS. Without your registration, I cannot provide any of the services you may qualify for.

 Dropping Procedure

If you are unable to complete the course for any reason, you must complete the drop procedure by phone or Webadvisor to be officially removed from the course. Drops are not automatic and if a student leaves the course without completing the official drop procedures, their name will appear on my final grade roster. This student will receive an F in the course.

Cell Phones

Ringing cell phones and beeping pagers and PDA’s are very disruptive to class. Please have enough respect for your fellow students to set them in such a manner that they are not heard or seen. If it should become a problem, you will be asked to leave the class and be held responsible for everything you miss. During an exam or quiz, turn off your cell phones, pagers, PDA or other electronic devices and do not use headphones of any kind. Failure to comply with this request may result in your dismissal from the exam, which would result in failing the exam.

Important Dates:

- Last Day to add classes: March 5, 2010
- Last Day to drop without a "W": March 15, 2010
- Last Day to drop with a "W": May 19, 2010
- Spring Break (no class): April 12-16
- Memorial Day (no class): May 31, 2010

Final Exam
Monday, June 7
8:00-10:30am

Pre-Algebra