ASC 092: Beginning Algebra Syllabus

Course Description

This course is a beginning level algebra course. Topics covered include fundamental operations, factoring, fractions, exponents, radicals and equations. This class does not satisfy college graduation requirements for math.

> **Credits:** 3 Semester Credits
> **Prerequisit(s):** None
> **Delivery Method:** In class and through IVN

Course Objectives/Student Outcomes

The students will be able to

- Perform basic algebraic operations using positive and negative numbers, fractions and exponents
- Demonstrate an understanding of terms and rules used in algebra
- Utilize problem solving strategies to solve problems
- Simplify expressions and solve equations & inequalities
- Factor using greatest common factor, factor by grouping and factor trinomials of the form $x^2 + bx + c$
- Plot points, graph linear equations and find the slope of a line
- Analyze and solve various types of math problems
- Utilize a hand-held calculator when solving algebra problems
- Gain the skills needed to participate in a college algebra course

Instructor: Connie Blair

Office: Admin RM 159

Office Hours: MTWHF 8:00-8:50, 11:00-12:00

Email: connie.blair@minotstateu.edu

Class Schedule: 10:00-10:50am MWF

Textbook: Miller, O'Neill, Hyde, Introductory Algebra, 2nd Ed – E-text with ALEKS; ISBN 0077409795

Course Requirements

Learning algebra is an ***investment of time***. Algebra is learned best by practicing, reflecting, and practicing some more. While understanding examples provided by the instructor and textbook is a good first step, to truly master the material you should be able to look at a problem, know how to proceed and be able to carry out the steps **WITHOUT ASSISTANCE**. The independent practice in the ALEKS learning system provides opportunities for you to get to that point. Passing grades on assessments demonstrate that you have indeed mastered the skills taught.

Evaluation

Homework—5%   Homework will be submitted in ALEKS unless stated otherwise. You can find the listed homework on the course calendar in ALEKS. You may work ahead, but each homework assignment must be completed by the due date listed.

Objectives—5%	The modules listed in the attached course outline are the scheduled objectives. In order to receive credit for completing these modules, they must be completed by the date listed on the course calendar.
External Assignments—10%	Made up of Pop-Quizzes. These cannot be retaken.
Assessments—20%	Made up of weekly Progress Checks that will occur when you log into your ALEKS account. These are currently scheduled for Wednesdays.
Tests—60%	You have two tests, the Mid-Term on February 29th during normal class time and the Final Exam on Monday, May 7th at 10:00 am. Please arrange to be in class for both of these dates. ***There will be no make-ups.***

Letter grades are assigned using the following scale
A 90-100%
B 80-89%
C 70-79%
D 60-69%
F 59% or lower

Course Outline (subject to change)
Module Topics are located at the end of the Course Syllabus
Module 1: R 1—2 Due 01/24/12
Module 2: R 3—4 Due 01/31/12
Module 3: S 1.1—1.2 Due 02/07/12
Module 4: S 1.3—1.4 Due 02/14/12
Module 5: S 1.5 Due 02/21/12
Midterm Review Due 02/28/12
Module 6: S 1.6 Due 03/06/12
Module 7: S 2.1 Due 03/20/12
Module 8: S 2.2—2.5 Due 03/27/12
Module 9: S 2.6—2.8 Due 04/03/12
Module 10: S 5.1—5.4 Due 04/10/12
Module 11: S 5.5—5.7 Due 04/17/12
Module 12: S 6.1, 6.2, 6.5 04/24/12
Final Review Due 04/27/12

Relationship to Campus Theme
This course introduces algebra skills that are used to solve problems in science, technology, business and social sciences. These problems will require critical thinking and interaction with other students.

Classroom Policies
- **ATTENDANCE:** The sequential nature of mathematics deems it necessary for students to attend class and *participate* on a regular basis, therefore one of the course requirements is regular attendance and will be enforced using pop quizzes.
- **ASSIGNMENTS:** Students may work ahead; however, each assignment must be completed on or before the due date. The midterm and final Exams will be taken during class.

- **ELECTRONIC DEVICES:** Turn off or <u>mute</u> (not vibrate) cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices. There is absolutely <u>no cell phone or iPod use</u> during class.
- **WORKING AHEAD:** The purpose of ALEKS is for students to work at their own pace, while still adhering to deadlines to complete the course in the time allotted. If a student finds themselves ahead of schedule, they may take the mid-term and/or final exam early with the following conditions: The student must complete the appropriate test review in ALEKS with a 90% or better and the date they take the exam must be at least two weeks prior to the date posted on the syllabus. Any student who finishes the course early has the option of continuing onto MATH 102 in the same semester.

Academic Integrity

The academic community is operated on the basis of honesty, integrity and fair play. It is the expectation that all students, as members of the college community, adhere to the highest levels of academic integrity. This means that
- Students are responsible for submitting their own work. Student work must not be plagiarized.
- Students must not cooperate on oral or written examinations or work together on evaluated assignments without authorization

Violations of academic principles such as cheating, plagiarism or other academic improprieties will be handled using the guidelines outlined in the Student Handbook.
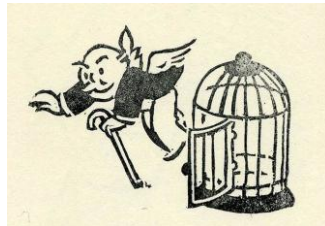
Disabilities and Special Needs

If you have a disability for which you need accommodation, please see me immediately. If you have already met with Student Developmental personnel, please provide me with the information regarding your needs so that I can make the appropriate accommodations.

Get out of Jail Free
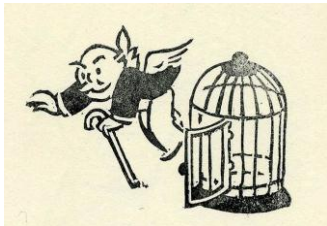
Turn in a late assignment up until the last week of the semester. This card is worth 5 points on your final exam if it is not used.

Get out of Jail Free

Turn in a late assignment up until the last week of the semester. This card is worth 5 points on your final exam if it is not used.