

Syllabus for: Math 120: Intermediate Algebra

Semester & Year:	Spring 2013
Course ID and Section Number:	Math 120 Section E2694
Number of Credits/Units:	4
Day/Time:	MTWTh 2:50 to 3:55
Location:	PS 201
Instructor's Name:	Holland Heese
Contact Information:	Office location and hours: TBA Phone: TBA Email: holland-heese@redwoods.edu

Course Description (catalog description as described in course outline):

A course in which functions are investigated graphically, numerically, symbolically and verbally in real-world settings. Linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic equations and functions are explored. Technology is integrated into all aspects of the course.

Student Learning Outcomes (as described in course outline) :

1. Evaluate and interpret general functions symbolically, numerically, and graphically.
2. Produce an accurate graph of each function type introduced in the course, identifying and plotting all salient features.
3. Demonstrate appropriate use of technology in analyzing the behavior of functions presented in the course.
4. Use mathematical models to analyze and interpret real-world situations.
5. Use sound mathematical writing and appropriate use of symbolism in presenting solutions of mathematical exercises and applications.

Special accommodations: College of the Redwoods complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request at least one week before the first test so that necessary arrangements can be made. No last-minute arrangements or post-test adjustments will be made. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability related services and may need accommodations, please see me or contact Disabled Students Programs and Services. Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS.

Academic Misconduct: Cheating, plagiarism, collusion, abuse of resource materials, computer misuse, fabrication or falsification, multiple submissions, complicity in academic misconduct, and/ or bearing false witness will not be tolerated. Violations will be dealt with according to the procedures and sanctions proscribed by the College of the Redwoods. Students caught plagiarizing or cheating on exams will receive an "F" in the course.

The student code of conduct is available on the College of the Redwoods website at:

<http://redwoods.edu/District/Board/New/Chapter5/AP%205500%20Conduct%20Code%20final%2002-07-2012.pdf>

Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the college catalog and on the College of the Redwoods homepage.

College of the Redwoods is committed to equal opportunity in employment, admission to the college, and in the conduct of all of its programs and activities.

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Math Department: <http://msenux.redwoods.edu/mathdept>

Class Sessions: MTWTh 2:50-3:55 in Physical Science 201

TOPICS: Math 120 is a course in which functions are investigated graphically, numerically, symbolically and verbally in real-world settings. Linear, quadratic, absolute value, polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic equations and functions are explored. Technology is integrated into all aspects of the course.

PREREQUISITES: Math 380 (Elementary Algebra) with a grade of "C" or better, or satisfactory performance on the math assessment exam. Prerequisites will be enforced.

TEXTBOOK: *Intermediate Algebra*, provided by the Department of Mathematics at College of the Redwoods. The textbook is provided free of charge on CD and online at <http://msenux.redwoods.edu/IntAlgText>. You may also order a printed version of the entire textbook (including exercises and answers) or the solutions manual (exercises+solutions) at the bookstore. See the book information handout for more details.

COURSE STRUCTURE: You will have a chance to ask questions about homework problems at the beginning of each class period. The remainder of the session will be for instruction, practice, and/or assessment. Homework will usually be due each day, and there will sometimes be a quiz, class activity, or an exam (usually on Fridays).

GRAPH PORTFOLIO: You will create a portfolio containing knowledge of the graphs of each type of elementary function in the class. This is to assist you in gaining full knowledge of the functions you will learn about in this class.

BOOK REPORT: There will be one short book report on a popular mathematics book of your choosing. This is to familiarize you to the importance, purpose and use of mathematics in everyday life. I will present you with a list of books to choose from, or you may choose a different title if you receive my permission. The report should be no longer than 1000 words. You will receive further instructions on the book report as the semester continues.

EXAMS: Three of the midterm exams will be in class, and last one hour in length. The fourth midterm exam will be a take-home group exam to prepare you for questions that might be on the final. The first three exams are worth 12% of your final grade. The take-home exam is worth 4% of the final grade.

HOMEWORK: There will usually be three assignments each week. In general, one assignment will be a written assignment, and the other two will be completed using our online practice and testing system (information about the online system will be provided later). In general, the homework problems will be

indicative of the type and difficulty of material that you need to know for the exams.

For the written assignments, be sure to follow the homework guidelines. Late written assignments will not be accepted.

GRADING:

Homework:	20%
In Class Work:	10%
Quizzes:	10%
Graph Portfolio:	5%
Book Report:	5%
4 Midterm Exams:	40%
Final Exam:	10%

Quizzes, exams, and the class will be graded on the following standard scale:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
0-59%	F

AVAILABLE HELP: Personal help will be available from the instructor during class, office hours, and via email and fax. You are also highly encouraged to sign up for the Math Lab. The Math Lab is a course that offers 0.5 to 1.0 units of credit to help you get assistance with your math skills. The lab is located in the Academic Support Center. If math has been a struggle for you in the past, or if you are in search of an A grade, then I strongly recommend the Math Lab. It has been very successful in helping students achieve their goals in mathematics.

More details on help resources are provided on the course website.

USE OF CALCULATORS: A good graphing calculator is required. The calculator must be able to plot graphs of functions and solve equations numerically (i.e., find intersections of curves). The TI-83+ or TI-84+ is an excellent, easy-to-use calculator which meets these requirements, and is the standard calculator that we use in other math courses at College of the Redwoods. However, if you already have another good graphing calculator that meets the above requirements, that may be used instead.

I will personally support and help students with the TI-83/84 series, and the HP 48/49/50 series.

If you don't have a graphing calculator, and don't wish to purchase one, there are a limited number of calculators available for rent from the Math Department for \$25 per semester. Further there are good emulators of the above calculators available for iOS (m48), and Android (Andie Graph, Droid48) phones/tablets.

Smartphones/Tablets capable of emulating a graphing calculator are allowed on tests given that they are in airplane mode, and that only the calculator app is being used. Violations of this policy will be considered cheating.

DISABILITIES: Any student who feels that s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor as soon as possible. The student will also need to visit the Disabled Student Programs and Services office (476-4280) and obtain a DSPS Support Services Agreement. Every effort will be made to meet accommodation requests. However, no retroactive accommodations will be provided.

CHANGES: This syllabus is subject to change at any time.