Syllabus for: Math 380 Elementary Algebra

Semester & Year:	Spring 2013
Course ID and Section Number:	Math 380 E2685
Number of Credits/Units:	5
Day/Time: Location:	MTF 8:20-9:55am-FM 104
Instructor's Name:	Levi Gill
Contact Information:	Office location and hours: TBA Phone: TBA Email: levi-gill@redwoods.edu

Course Description (catalog description as described in course outline):
A study of the real number system, first-degree linear equations and inequalities, polynomial expressions and equations, factoring, radicals, quadratic equations and the quadratic formula, interpretation of graphs, and problem-solving techniques. Small group work and exploratory activities (including the use of the graphing calculator) are involved in this course. Note: Graphing calculator required, TI-83 or TI-84 recommended.

Student Learning Outcomes (as described in course outline) :

1. Use properties of real numbers to solve linear equations, inequalities, and systems of linear equations.

2. Solve non   linear equations by factoring.

3. Draw and interpret graphs and solve problems graphically.

4. 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.

Welcome to Math 380—Elementary Algebra—Spring 2013

Instructor: Levi Gill

Office Location: TBA, phone number 476-4223

Email: levi-gill@redwoods.edu
      (include your name and course number in the subject line of your email)

Office Hours: TBA, see the website for my weekly schedule

Cancelled Class Line: 476-4210 Option 5

Required Text and Materials:

- Text – Free CD (see Textbook Info posted on MyCR site under Resources)
- TI-83 or 84 Graphing Calculator- may rent for $20 from the Math Department
- pencils and erasers
- stapler with staples
- 8.5x11 paper
- Graph paper

Recommended Materials:

- Ruler (in a pinch use the side of a book or calculator works)
- Colored pencils for graphing work

Student Learning Outcomes:

5. Use properties of real numbers to solve linear equations, inequalities, and systems of linear equations.

6. Solve non-linear equations by factoring.

7. Draw and interpret graphs and solve problems graphically.

8. Use sound mathematical writing and appropriate use of symbolism in presenting solutions of mathematical exercises and applications.

Course Grading Scale:

Homework	15%
Class Participation and Opportunity Corrections	15%
Optimath Quizzes	20%
Midterm	35%
Final	15%

Letter Grades will be assigned no stricter than the following:

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

Class Time: Class time is for issues that concern the entire class. It is not the time to discuss your grade, homework questions, or any other individual matters. Send me an email, call me, or come by my office during office hours to discuss these kinds of issues. We will spend the first 10-15 minutes of class time on homework questions from the previous class meeting's assignment. If you have more than a question or two from the assignment you will want to get some help outside of class.

Mathematics Department Policy Regarding "Faculty Withdrawal" of Students after Census Day: A student who is absent from class for the amount of time equal to two weeks of classes, will be withdrawn from the course, unless there are extenuating circumstances that are communicated to the instructor in a timely manner. This "faculty withdrawal" can occur between Week 4 and Week 10 of the semester.

Homework: Homework is posted on the MyCR site for this course, under Resources. I will post assigned and due dates for each assignment as we cover the material. In general, homework is due the class meeting 2 days after it is assigned. (Something assigned on Monday will be due Friday). Homework is where you get to practice and receive feedback on using mathematical notation correctly. Your grade will be based upon whether it looks like you did all the problems, checked your odd answers in the text using a colored pencil or pen, looks mostly correct, whether you followed the guidelines given above, and whether you used notation properly as illustrated in your text and in class. Each assignment is worth 10 points. Late homework will be accepted up to a week from when it is <u>assigned</u> for at most 7 points.

<u>Axioms on How to Keep Your Teacher Sane</u>

- Avoid the flow of red ink by working out each problem clearly and completely.
- The world won't care, or believe, that you're smart if you can't communicate your thought-processes. Therefore, show all your steps.
- Sometimes words are necessary to explain what you're doing in math.
- It's possible you are not as smart as you were 30 minutes ago, so take good notes and leave yourself a trail so you don't get lost later.
- No one is brilliant enough to use a pen. Use a pencil and erase mistakes.

- Scratch work belongs on scratch paper. Only write steps that show the flow of the process.
- Graphs belong on graphing paper.
- You do not posses the ability to draw a straight line by hand. Use a straightedge.
- Calculators are a tool; use them.
- Calculators don't know math, you do. If you don't know math, then calculators won't either.
- Include organizational info (i.e., see figure).

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Algebra 3                          Name
Section #
Date
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- We're not perfect. Keep your old homeworks for reference and records.
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Class Participation and Midterm Corrections: Your presence and participation in class is essential for making this class successful. You participation in activities and questions informs me, and you, of whether you are gaining an understanding of the material. It is also where you will be learning and practicing mathematical grammar. Writing mathematics correctly is crucial to learning the mathematical content. Your participation grade will be based upon:

- Warm Ups/Practices some collected some not
- Online Survey/Questions regarding reading, videos, or other lecture preparations
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- Larger Class Activities

Weekly Quizzes: There will be a quiz each week except the week of the midterm. The quizzes will be available online for a week via Optimath. Each quiz is worth 10 points each and the number of questions will vary depending on the difficulty of the material. On Thursday, the closing day of the quiz a version will be given in class. I will take the larger of your in class quiz and the average of your in class quiz with your Optimath quiz score. The quiz will usually be over the material we had covered that *previous* week. You may repeat each quiz online as many times as you want before the due date. I encourage you to do the weekly quizzes online until you receive at least a 7 on the quiz. The Optimath system also allows you to review each quizzes' solutions once completed so you can figure out exactly where you went wrong. Each time you repeat the quiz you will be presented with new questions. There is more information posted on the MyCR site under Resources. You will get a chance to work on the Optimath system in class the end of the first week or beginning of the second week to get comfortable with the system. Optimath can be found at http://mathrev.redwoods.edu/cgi-bin/online/s13/OTlogin.cgi.

Midterm: There will be a Midterm on Thursday March 7th. This is the Thursday before Spring Break. Make-ups are given at my discretion. The earlier you contact me with regards to the potential or actual missing of the Midterm increases your chances of being granted a make-up.

The cumulative final is scheduled by the college for Monday May 6th 8:45am-9:55am. Do not plan on leaving town before your scheduled final.

Cell Phone Policy: Cell phones need to be turned off. If you must leave your cell phone on put it on vibrate in your pocket and sit next to the door. Be sure to quietly exit the classroom and move away from the door quickly before answering. I also reserve the right to deduct points from your class participation points. <u>Texting is not permitted at any time.</u> Texting distracts you at the time but negatively impacts the learning environment for everyone around you as well, including myself. The reason being that when I give the class problems to work on or have you work in groups you are left clueless as to what you are suppose to be doing. <u>I will deduct points from your participation grade for texting.</u>

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If circumstances ever pressure you to cheat, be aware that it is far better to fail a test (or class) than to be caught cheating. Failing can be fixed, but being caught cheating is a record with consequences that can follow you the rest of your life.

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I reserve the right to modify this syllabus