

**SELF-PACED ALGEBRA 151
SPRING 2008**

COURSE: Math 151A/B Algebra 1 (computer-based)

INSTRUCTOR: Anh Nguyen email: anguyen@ohlone.edu

TEXT: *Introductory Algebra (Wright) : Hawkes Learning Systems (CDs) software*

MATERIALS: Notebook, graphing papers, pencils, eraser and a scientific calculator. No PDAs, TI-89 or above are allowed.

PREREQUISITES: M151A: Math 190 with a grade of “C” or better or placement evaluation
M151B: Math 151A with a grade of “C” or better

CONTENT: M151A: Signed numbers, equations, graphs, systems of equations, and applications
M151B: Polynomials, factoring, exponents, rational expressions, radicals, and applications

GRADING:	Homework	20 %	A	90 – 100%
	Tests	50 %	B	80 – 89 %
	Final	30 %	C	70 – 79 %
			D	60 – 69 %
			F	Below 60%

CLASS FORMAT: This is a computer-based algebra class. It is designed for self-motivated learners. There are no formal lectures. Students log into network software during class to learn the material, practice problems, complete homework, and are assigned tests when ready. You set your own pace: however, self-paced does not mean no-pace!! You will be encouraged to move through the material at a reasonable pace.

In addition, tutors will be available to help you understand and work out problems. (They will NOT help you during tests, however.)

You should spend at least 1-2 hours outside of class for every hour in class. If you only work on the material in class, you will not finish.

“W” DATE: If you determine that you will not complete your work before the end of the semester, you may request a “W”.

- If you continue coming to class to the end of the semester, you can carry your work over to the next semester and pick up where you left off. You will receive a grade the following

semester. However, the W will remain for the previous semester

- If you stop coming to class, you will have to start over from the beginning the next time you take it.

NOTE: If you do not complete a part (A or B) in two semesters, you may be required to fill out a petition and get permission from the Dean's office to continue. You may be required to start from the beginning.

HOMEWORK: Lessons will be assigned from the Hawkes Learning Systems software. Completion of the "Certify" sections count as homework for this course. You will get credit for the "certify"s that you finish. **All homework must be done before taking tests.** For example, if you want to take Test 1, then you must finish homework of chapter 1 and 2 as indicated on the pink sheet.

TESTS: There are 5 tests and a cumulative final for each part (A and B). If you get below a 70% on a regular test, you can retake it. The maximum number of times a test may be taken is **now twice**. The higher of the two grades will be counted. All of the tests will be generated on the computer. For some tests, you will be required to work out the problems on paper and turn them in. This is to make sure that you have set up the problems correctly.

- **All tests must be taken without notes or books**
- **You must not get help from anyone, including the tutors**
- **A test will be given only when there is at least 60 minutes to complete it**
- **You must not leave the room once you have started a test. If you do, your test will be closed by the instructor**
- **Tests will now be timed: 70 minutes for a regular test and 2 hours for the final. The test will automatically be closed by the computer software when time is up.**
- **You must sit in a test area designated by the instructor**
- **Final Exam: You CANNOT take a final exam if you have not taken all five tests. You can take the final one time only.**

ATTENDANCE: At the beginning and/or end of each session, the instructor will take attendance. Students are required to **attend all classes, arrive on time, and stay until the end of the class period.** This is very important!!!

Students who consistently arrive late and / or leave early will be dropped from the course. Counselor's appointments, changes in work schedule, etc. are not valid excuses for missing part or all of a class session. If the class doesn't fit your schedule, then don't take it. If your schedule changes, you may have to drop it. Only students who have a conflict statement on file

signed by the instructor will be exempt from this. They will be required to follow the times agreed to by the conflict statement or they will be dropped.

It is college policy that if your cumulative absences equal or exceed the equivalent of 2 weeks of class, you may be dropped from the class. If you decide to drop the class, do so according to the Ohlone College dates procedures. Failure to do so will result in a grade of F for the semester.

Make sure you understand this policy!!!

IMPORTANT

DATES:

Last day to add without instructor's signature:	Friday, February 1
Last day to add (requires instructor's signature):	Sunday, February 10
Last day to drop without a "W" grade:	Sunday, February 10
Last day to petition for CR/NC:	Friday, February 22
Last day to take a "W" grade:	Friday, April 25

ACADEMIC

DISHONESTY:

Academic dishonesty defrauds all those who depend on the integrity of the College, its courses, and its degrees and certificates. Students are expected to follow the ethical standards required in Ohlone courses. These standards are defined in the Standards of Student Conduct and Discipline and Due Process Procedures. (Copies are available in the offices of the Vice President, Educational Services/Deputy Superintendent or Division Deans.)

NOISE:

Because of the interactive nature of this class, it will be impossible to maintain complete silence. The instructors and tutors will be helping students and answering questions. At the same time, however, one or more students may be taking tests. We want to provide a friendly and relaxed environment where students are free to work at a comfortable pace. Please be considerate and keep conversations limited to math. Speak softly. **Please do not bring friends, cell phones, or beepers into the classroom.** If you become disruptive and disturb others, you may be asked to leave.

DISTRACTIONS:

Do not surf the Web or check/write email during class. Do it before or after class in the open lab.

ADDITIONAL:

You can also work on the software in the Math Learning Center. Tutors and instructors are on duty to help you. We want you to be successful in your math courses!