Math B60: Beginning Algebra          @@@ Syllabus  @@@          Fall 2015

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Course Meetings: In MS 104, on Fridays from 9:00 am – Noon.

Office Hours: These will be in the classroom where we usually meet, MS104.
             Mondays & Wednesdays: 3:25 – 4:20 PM, 5:10 – 6:00 PM
             Tuesdays & Thursdays: 3:40 – 4:20 PM, 5:25 – 6:00 PM

Prerequisites: A grade of “C” or better in Math B50 or equivalent placement.

      (You do not need to and probably should not purchase a hard copy of this text.)
      We will cover most of chapters 1 – 6.

Please read carefully: This classes utilizes a software called MyMathLab. You will be required to
purchase and use this software for the class (instructions on last page). This software contains online
homework and quizzes. This software is NOT optional. Any student who is registered in this course
during the first week must show at least 60% completion of current MyMathLab work by February 4.
Failure to do this will result in being dropped from the course for lack of academic progress. Those
who get registered during the second week will be granted a one week extension based on the day they
enrolled.

Wait-listed students: Students on the wait list are not eligible to attend lecture (but they MUST show
up for the beginning of lecture on the first day of class, or they will be dropped from the wait list). Wait
list students are responsible to check the roster daily to see if they became officially enrolled in the
course. If this happens, you are responsible to get registered on MyMathLab and complete at least 60%
of the current online homework within 1 week of the day of your registration.

Warning: Any student, officially enrolled or wait-listed, who does not show up to the beginning of
lecture on the first day of class will be dropped. Registering on MyMathLab does not protect you from
being dropped because of not showing on that first day. You may register for this course on
MyMathLab without paying immediately. Once you access your account, you have about two weeks
before you need to pay, so there is no excuse not to get started immediately! Directions for getting
started are in the second attachment.

Required for Class: MyMathLab (since this software contains an e-text for the book, you do NOT
need to purchase a hard copy of the text, and it costs far less to only purchase the access key). You will
also need a scientific or graphing calculator. Cell phones used as calculators are NOT ALLOWED on
any in-class exam.

Attendance & Participation: Regular attendance is essential to succeed in this course. Lectures will
help you grasp the course material and give you a chance to ask questions about anything that isn’t
clear. Attendance will be taken for every lecture up to the last day to withdrawal. If for some reason
you miss class, you are responsible to obtain information from your classmates about what you missed.
Contacts from the class should be made prior to missing a class. You may be dropped from the course for being absent for two or more classes prior to the last day to withdrawal.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**
1. Simplify algebraic expressions using the correct order of operations.
2. Solve formulas, linear equations and inequalities for a specified variable.
3. Solve application problems by defining a variable, setting up and solving an equation and interpreting the results.
4. Perform algebraic operations on polynomials: factor, add, subtract, multiply, and divide by a monomial.
5. Given a linear equation, graph the line, identify, and interpret x and y intercepts and slope.
6. Write and graph linear equations given a) two points and b) one point and a slope.
7. Solve equations that involve rational expressions. Solve a system of two linear equations and interpret the solution graphically and algebraically.

**Homework:** Your homework will be assigned regularly on MyMathLab. You should be working on it regularly. Please be aware of the due dates. There is a percentage that shows how much you have completed with currently due assignments. MyMathLab will remember what you have completed so far, and updates itself every time you submit a correct problem. Feel free to ask how to do a problem, and I'll go over it in class (as time permits). I strongly recommend working in groups outside of class.

**Chapter Quizzes:** There are also quizzes in MyMathLab, one for each chapter completed. When a chapter is completed in class, you have one week to submit the quiz for that chapter.

**Midterms:** There will be 2 in-class midterms, one (as the name implies) half-way through the semester, and the other at the very end of the semester, prior to the final exam. The first half of the material covered will be on the first midterm, and the second half will be on the second midterm.

**Final Exam:** The final exam will cover the same material covered on the two midterms, so together they form an excellent review for the final exam. The final exam will be on Friday, Dec 4, at 9am.

**Grading:** Your grade will be determined as follows:
- Homework 20%
- Quizzes 20%
- Midterms 30%
- Final Exam 30%

**Cheating:** There will be a zero tolerance policy on cheating. A first offense will result in a zero for that assignment and possibly mention on their permanent record. A second offense will receive more drastic measures with a possibility of failing the course.

**Accommodations:** Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact Disabled Student Programs & Services located at Student Services Building, 1st Floor, Counseling Center (661-395-4334), as soon as possible to better ensure such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

**Creating a MyMathLab Account:** See the second attachment for the details. Even if you can't pay immediately, you can obtain free access for the first two weeks of class, so there is no excuse for not getting started immediately. Remember, if you don't complete the homework for the first two weeks by the end of the second week (with at least a 60% average), you'll be dropped for non-participation. Explore this course website – especially the Multimedia tab. There is much in there to help you master the material!

**Course Calendar:** Try to keep up (approximately) with the attached Course Calendar. This will help insure that you don't fall behind. Falling behind is fatal in most math classes.