Spring 2-1-2022

M 065.01: Prealgebra

Timothy Michael Levandowski
University of Montana, Missoula, tim.levandowski@umontana.edu

M065 Pre-Algebra
Syllabus

Instructor: Tim Levandowski
Email: tim.levandowski@umt.edu
tmlevandowski@mcpsmt.org
Office: The Lifelong Learning Center
310 South Curtis
Missoula, MT 59801
Phone: (406) 549-8765
Text: (406)-530-9205

Zoom Meeting ID: N/A
Zoom Password: N/A

Class materials: EdReady M065 Pre-Algebra Companion - provided

WELCOME TO PRE-ALGEBRA! M065 is the first step on a journey of mathematical discovery, created to offer you a positive learning experience as we lay the foundation for understanding the principles and techniques of algebra. M065 is a one-semester course, covering the arithmetic and basic algebra skills needed for Introductory Algebra, M090. Topics include: different subsets of the number system; fractions, decimals and percentages with applications, ratios and proportions with applications; linear equations with applications; some geometry; and an introduction to graphing.

PLACEMENT in M065 should reflect your score on the **Maplesoft Math Placement** test. This course is a "developmental course," designed to help you prepare for college level coursework. Developmental course credits do **not** count towards graduation or affect your GPA, but these credits **do** count for financial aid, Four Bear progress, the tuition flat-spot, and toward full- or part-time status. All developmental course grades carry an "R" designation.

For this semester there is a unique opportunity to register for this course without paying tuition to attend. You may drop this course and continue to participate in it, however; you will want to remain registered for this course if:

- *You need it to maintain full- , part-, or half time enrollment for financial aid purposes.*
- *You want to use a grade of C- or better to place into your next college math class*

If you have questions about this please check with your advisor.

You will find more information about how to drop a course here:
http://mc.umt.edu/aac/Forms/default.php

*Be certain that you are enrolled in the proper math class at the beginning of the semester. You may not be able to switch into a more appropriate class after the first week. If you have any concerns about your placement reach out to your advisor.

WHY DO WE STUDY ALGEBRA? Algebra allows us to solve problems for unknown quantities, draw graphs of relationships between numbers, and make use of the inherent structure of our number system, but the larger and more important goal in the course is to learn abstract reasoning. This deeper thinking allows us to draw from our mental toolboxes to solve certain types of problems.

This course has been designed for you, the student. Your willing participation is essential if you plan to succeed in this course. Please come to class on time and ready to take notes and learn!

Course Materials: While listening to class lectures has great value, nothing can replace the practice it takes to learn to "do the math". We will use **EdReady** to provide the online practice for this class. This free program can be accessed at https://mtdaedready.geniussis.com/. Your username and password have been sent to the email account you provided on your intake paperwork. **Moodle** will be the platform used for graded weekly homework.

Successful Students:

- Attend Class - in-person
- Use the "LEARN" features in EdReady to review content and practice before attempting the Moodle Homeworks.
- Ask questions to clarify information

LEARNING GOALS: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Manipulate integers and rational number arithmetically
- Use the order of operations to simplify arithmetic and algebraic expressions
- Simplify single variable linear expressions by combining like terms
- Solve linear equations and their applications
- Manipulate percentages and solve applied percentage problems
- Manipulate ratios and proportions and solve applied ratio and proportion problems
- Graph lines in the rectangular coordinate system

COURSE STRUCTURE AND EXPECTATIONS

COURSE DESIGN: M065 is designed to provide students with the instruction they need to prepare for M090. Some of you may be able to move through the content more rapidly while others may need more review. In order for us to provide the support you need, we need to understand what you know. We will start class next week with an initial assessment called the TABE. This will assess your Math, Language and Reading skills which will help us to customize the materials we provide in class.

We will start each class by reviewing the previous day's content and then introduce new material. You should expect to spend at least 9 hours a week in this class. Three hours in class and 6 hours working on homework in EdReady and additional assignments that will be provided to reinforce concepts.

- **Initial Assessment:** TABE assesses math, reading and language skills to help us customize instruction.
- **EdReady Practice:** The practice EdReady provides is a review of the material when needed in the **Presentations, Worked Examples and Text** and opportunities to complete problems in the **Practice** and **Review.** Use EdReady to prepare for your Weekly Homeworks, the Midterm and the Final.

- **Weekly Homework:** Most weeks you will have a graded homework reviewing exercises and class content. Homework will be completed outside of class and will be due one week from the assigned date.
- **Midterm and Final:** You will be responsible for printing exams out on paper and showing your work. You may get partial credit for a problem you missed based on your shown steps, so make sure it is legible! More details on how to do this will be included in Moodle.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS: Students with disability may request reasonable course modifications. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for students (DSS). For more information, please consult http://www.umt.edu/dss/. Examples of reasonable accommodations include extra time or use of a quiet room for tests and/or quizzes. To quality for reasonable accommodations you must provide a letter from DSS. You are responsible for making the necessary arrangements with DSS at the Mountain Campus or the Missoula College campus. If you have any questions, please contact me.

CALCULATOR: A scientific calculator is required for M065; the Department of Applied Arts and Science recommends one of the Texas Instruments models, such as TI-30 or TI-34. They are inexpensive and offer a good introduction to the utility of calculators.

TECHNOLOGY: You will need a computer or mobile device with internet access to complete the coursework.

Lab hours: Learning math takes practice. If math has been challenging for you, having support while you are practicing can make all the difference. I would encourage all of you to sign up for a weekly math lab. Additional assistance is available in person or virtually with the instructor. We will schedule these on the first day of class.
Math tutoring is also available for all UM students. Check for the hours at the Missoula College Learning Center (MC room 022); 243-7826; https://mc.umt.edu/learning-center/Tutoring/Math.php, or for tutoring on the Mountain Campus see: http://hs.umt.edu/math/undergraduate/all-students/free-tutoring.php.

FINAL GRADES: Our approach to learning mathematics is based on the concept of mastery. We want you to leave this class prepared to succeed in M090.

Final grades will be computed using the following weights:
- Initial Assessment - 25 points
- Weekly Homework - 200 points
- Midterm - 100 points
- Final - 125 points
- EdReady practice - up to 25 extra credit points

Students must complete M065 with a RC- or better or retake the Maplesoft Placement test with an adequate score to advance to their next math course. Letter grades will be assigned as follows: RA: 90-100% RB: 80-89% RC: 70-79% RD: 60-69% RF: 0-59.9%

GRADE OPTION: When taken for credit, M065 is assigned a traditional letter grade only. When credit is not needed, M065 can be completed but no grade will be transmitted to Missoula College.

PETITION TO DROP: Petitions for dropping will be considered only for students who provide written verification of at least one university approved reason:

1. Error in registration
2. Family emergency
3. Accident or illness
4. Change in work schedule

Reasons that are not acceptable include:

1. Forgetting to turn in a drop slip
2. Protecting a student's GPA

INCOMPLETES: A grade of incomplete will only be considered when all three of the following are true:

1. The student has been in regular attendance and passing up to three weeks before the end of the academic semester.
2. Factors beyond the student's control make it impossible to complete the course on time.
3. The instructor and the student agree that there is a reasonable probability that the student will be able to make-up the work required to complete the course and specific arrangements are drawn up and signed by both. A student who receives an incomplete has one calendar year to resolve the incomplete (I) before it automatically reverts to a failing grade (RF).

ACADEMIC CONDUCT: All students are expected to practice academic honesty as defined by the Student Conduct Code, http://www.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/default.php. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the instructor and a disciplinary sanction by the university.

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA ATTENDANCE POLICY: Students who are registered for a course but do not attend the first two class meetings may be required by the instructor to drop the course. This rule allows for early identification of class vacancies to permit other students to add classes. Students not allowed to remain must complete a drop form or drop the course on the internet (http://cyberbear.umt.edu) to avoid receiving a failing grade. Students who know they will be absent should contact the instructor in advance.

Students are expected to attend all class meetings and complete all assignments for courses in which they are enrolled. Instructors may excuse brief and occasional absences for reasons of illness, injury, family emergency, or participation in a University sponsored activity. (University sponsored activities include for example, field trips, ASUM service, music or drama performances, and intercollegiate athletics.) Instructors shall excuse absences for reasons of military service or mandatory public service.