

Math 155 Intermediate Algebra, SRJC Spring 2017

Course Description

An intermediate algebra course which incorporates the use of technology. Topics include functions, equations and inequalities in one variable, systems of linear equations in two or three variables, exponential and logarithmic functions and equations, and discrete topics. Graphing calculators and/or computer algebra systems will be incorporated as appropriate.

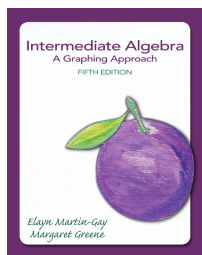
Prerequisites: Completion of MATH 150B or higher OR Course completion of MATH 151

A complete description can be found here: [Official SRJC Course Description of Math 155](#)

Instructor

George Sturr Office Hours: [see SRJC home page](#)
Office: Bussman 1480
Phone: 707-527-4703
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Textbook



Intermediate Algebra, A Graphing Approach,
5th Edition by Martin-Gay

Required Technology

A graphing calculator is required for every class meeting and exams. The TI-84 (or older TI-83) is recommended because it will be used for classroom demos. Other models (TI89, TI Inspire) also work well for this course. In addition, we will be using an online homework service, MyMathLab, so a student must have access to the internet (either at home or on campus) to do the required homework.

Exams

Three to four midterm exams and a final exam will be given. The final exam is comprehensive. You must take the final exam to pass the course. At the end of the semester I will replace a student's lowest midterm exam score with the final exam percentage, if it helps.

Missed midterm exams cannot be made up. If a student provides a reasonable, verifiable excuse for missing an exam, then the exam score can be replaced by the final. Missed, unexcused exams count as zero points and will not be replaced by the final.

If you know in advance that you cannot possibly make it to an exam, please contact me. Alternative arrangements for taking an exam are sometimes possible.

Homework and Quizzes

This course uses the MyMathLab online homework service. All homework must be submitted electronically. Online or printed quizzes (mostly take-home) will be given as needed throughout the course. Points earned from homework and quizzes are combined to form a score equivalent to 20% of the semester grade.

Getting Help

Free tutoring services are available in the SRJC Tutorial Center (bottom floor of the Doyle library) and in the Math Computer Lab (room 1733). I am always available during office hours, so feel free to stop by if you have any math questions or need help with other problems related to the course.

Grading Policy

Student semester grades are based on performance in each of the categories shown in the table below. A score of up to 100 points is possible for each category. At the end of the semester a final score is determined by weighting the category scores with the percentages given below.

Category	Percentage of Semester Grade
Midterm Exam Average	55%
Homework/Quiz	20%
Final Exam	25%

The final semester score is then converted to a letter grade for the semester using this scale.

- A: 90 or better
- B: 80 – 89
- C: 70 – 79
- D: 60 – 69
- F: less than 60

Credit/Non-credit students need a minimum C grade (70) for credit.

For example, suppose a student has the following scores: midterm average 78, homework/quiz 90, and final exam 86. The final semester score is calculated as follows:

Midterm Average	$78 \times .55 = 42.9$
Homework/Quiz	$90 \times .20 = 18$
Final Exam	$86 \times .25 = 21.5$
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Final Score	total = 82.4

With an 82.4, the student earns a B grade.

Attendance and Drops

Attendance will be taken daily. A student may be dropped from any class when that student's absences exceed ten percent (10%) of the total hours of class time.

If you decide to discontinue this course, it is your responsibility to officially drop it. Do not assume that the instructor will drop you automatically.

Standards of Conduct

Students who register in SRJC classes are required to abide by the SRJC Student Conduct Standards. Violation of the Standards is basis for referral to the Vice President of Student Services or dismissal from class or from the College. See the [Student Code of Conduct page](#).

Collaborating on or copying of tests or homework in whole or in part will be considered an act of academic dishonesty and result in a grade of 0 for that test or assignment. Students are encouraged to share information and ideas, but not their work.