

MATH 102 – COLLEGE ALGEBRA
FALL 2005

Text: College Algebra (fourth edition) by Stewart, Redlin, and Watson
Professor: Sheri Berger
Office: Santa Susana Hall 125 (formerly Faculty Office Building 125)
Office Hours: Monday 4:00 – 5:20 and by appointment
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About the class: Math 102 is the algebra portion of pre-calculus. Along with Math 104 (Trigonometry) it is designed to prepare students for a rigorous study of calculus. A working mastery of intermediate algebra is a prerequisite for the course. Graphing calculators will not be allowed on quizzes, midterm exams, or the final exam. Calculators may **not** be shared on quizzes or exams.

What we will cover: Chapters 1 – 5. See calendar for details.

Basis of grading: The course grade will be determined as follows:

Final Exam	30%	(Cumulative Common Final – Saturday, December 10 th)
Midterm Exams	40%	(Midterm 1 on Ch. P, 1, 2 – Midterm 2 on Ch. 3, 4, 5)
Key Concepts Quizzes	20%	(4 quizzes on Ch. P, 1, 3, and 4)
Assignments	10%	(Webwork Quizzes and Collected Homework)

Final grades will be assigned as follows (+/- grades may be assigned):

90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
55 – 69	D
below 55	F

There will be no make-ups on tests or quizzes. No late homework will be accepted. To compensate for emergencies I will drop the two lowest assignment grades at the end of the semester.

Webworks Quizzes: Webworks quizzes will be assigned and due periodically. Information on how to login will be given in a separate document.

Collected Homework: Homework from the text will be assigned for each class lesson. Homework questions will be answered the following class meeting. Since there may not be sufficient class to address ALL homework questions, you should make use of the following resources:

My office hours or the Math Labs in Student Services Building.

Homework will be **randomly** collected and graded for completeness and accuracy.

Important Date: The last day to drop by solar is September 16th.

Course Philosophy: Learning algebra involves skill acquisition. It is analogous to the physical training involved in music and sports. No matter how much you *understand* about playing a musical instrument or performing a certain athletic feat, you will never be able to do either one without practice. It is simply impossible. Similarly, the only way to be successful in algebra is to devote **consistent** time to the practice of homework problems. A general guideline is to practice five hours out of class for each class meeting.