Math 125: Intermediate Algebra Syllabus

Section 3266: TTh 4:10-6:40 PM

INSTRUCTOR: Nisakorn Srichoom
OFFICE HOURS: Room 1409X Thursday at 6:40-7:35 PM or by appointment only
INSTRUCTOR WEB SITE: https://www.csun.edu/~ns36151

(lecture notes, syllabus, chapter exam reviews and final reviews can be found here)

E–MAIL: srichon@piercecollege.edu

❖ For e-mail, please include the phrase “Math 125, your first and last name” in the subject line.
❖ I use this key phrase to filter e-mail into a separate folder so that I can respond to your e-mail more quickly.
❖ To receive the fastest response, send an e-mail to me rather than calling my voice mail.
❖ I will do my best to answer your e-mail and discussion board postings (if specifically addressed to me) within 48 hours. If you send an e-mail to me on Saturday or Sunday, please do not expect a response until Monday.
❖ I encourage you to attend my office hours.
❖ Please ensure that you provide me with a current working e-mail address and that your e-mail account does not block my e-mail messages by treating them as spam. Claiming that you did not receive my e-mail messages is not a valid excuse for late assignments or missing on-campus meeting dates.

Please read this entire syllabus, keep it as reference and is subject to change by the instructor.

TEXTBOOK:
(Graphing paper and colored pens or pencils will be helpful)

PREREQUISITE:
Completion of Math 115 with at least a “C”, or Algebra Placement Test.

CALCULATOR:
A scientific calculator is sufficient for this course. No cell phone can be used as a calculator.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will cover chapters 1-10.
Topics include linear equations and inequalities, systems of linear equations and Gaussian elimination, quadratic equations, polynomials and rational expressions, exponents, and radicals. Functions and their graphs, including linear, quadratic and exponential functions; logarithms, polynomials and algebraic fractions. Modeling and problem solving. Sequences, conic sections, and complex numbers.

PIERCE COLLEGE MATH STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOS)
Upon successful completion of Intermediate Algebra (Math 125) the student will be able to:
❖ Represent and analyze basic functions and their applications using tables, graphs, and equations. Use and interpret function notation in both algebraic and graphical contexts.
❖ Write and analyze linear models for functions with constant rate of change. Graph linear equations and interpret slope as a rate of change in real world situations. Model problems involving two or more unknowns by writing and solving systems of equations or inequalities.
Formulate and analyze quadratic models, such as projectile motion, revenue functions, problems involving area or the Pythagorean Theorem, and applications of conic sections, such as planetary orbits.

Apply and interpret exponential models such as population growth and compound interest, and logarithmic scales such as pH and earthquake magnitude.

Use exponents and radicals to analyze power functions models in applications such as direct and inverse variation and allometry (scaling in Physiology).

The above will be tested on the final exam.

SPECIAL SERVICES:
Students with disabilities who need accommodations are encouraged to contact the instructor. Special Services is available to facilitate the reasonable accommodation process. The Special Services office is located in the new Student Services Building #4800 and the telephone number is (818) 719-6430.

ATTENDANCE:
We have a lot of material to cover and understand, so regular attendance is crucial to your success in the class. Please come to class on time and stay for the duration of the class. If you cannot attend regularly, on time, and stay for the entire class, you should take this class at another time that fits your schedule. Students arriving late or leaving early, without authorization from the instructor, may be marked tardy. Three recorded tardies will count as one absence. Excessive absences (3 or more) may result in being dropped from the class. As a result, you must contact me to avoid being dropped from the class on the 3rd absences. You are responsible on any assignments and notes from the days that you are absent.

MATH DEPARTMENT DROP POLICY:
Any student who has stopped attending class has the responsibility to officially drop the class either on-line, by phone, or in the Admissions and Records office. The instructor has the prerogative to drop any student with unexcused absences equaling two class meeting at any time throughout the semester up to the drop deadline (January 29th); however, the student must never assume that the instructor will do so. Failure to officially drop may result in the student receiving a grade of “F” for the course.

CHEATING: ZERO TOLERANCE CHEATING POLICY:
If you cheat in this class (i.e. knowingly or unknowingly participate in the submission of unoriginal work for any assignment, quiz or test) the instructor is required to fill out an Academic Dishonesty Report form. This report will be forwarded to the Math Dept. Chairman, who will send it to the VP of Student Services for disciplinary action, which may result in suspension or exclusion. In addition to sending this report, you will receive an “F” in the course.

ONLINE ASSIGNMENTS: (10% of the course grade)
Homework assignments will be assigned online at http://www.coursecompass.com/ and will be due as indicated on each assignment. You will be dropped from class if you are not in coursecompass by MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21 at 11:59 PM. To register into coursecompass, see Guide to Access Online Resources information sheet. You should complete the work daily and it is your responsibility to keep track of your assignments. Since this is a 5-units course, plan on studying and completing homework a minimum of 15 hours per week. Motivation, tenacity, and a positive attitude are keys to an individual’s success.

CLASS WORK: (10% of the course grade)
Class work will be given every class meeting. It will be collected at the end of the class. One lowest class work will be dropped. No make-up class work will be given under any circumstances.

READING:
Reading assignment sections will be assigned each class meeting from the text and it is your responsibility to catch up with the class due to your absences.
**EXAMS: (50% of the course grade)**
There are 5 exams, 100 points each, for a total of 500 points. Each exam consists of 21 multiple choice problems and 4 essay type problems (show work on the exam) for a total of 25 questions. **No make-up chapter exams will be given under any circumstances!** However, one missing chapter exam will be replaced with the final exam score. If you miss more than one chapter exam, then the second missing exam will scored zero. Furthermore, if you do not miss any chapter exam, your final exam also will be used to replace with your lowest chapter exams if the final exam score is better.

**FINAL EXAM: (30% of the course grade)**
The final exam is cumulative. **No make-up final exam will be given in any circumstance.** The final exam date is **Saturday, June 4, 2011 at 3:30-5:45 pm.** Room will be announced in class.

**GRADING:**
Your grade will be computed from your online assignments, class work assignment, participation, chapter tests, and your final exam scores. Any missing exam will be scored zero. The following is a breakdown of how the semester grade is computed.

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<th>Grade Percentage</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Class work – Average</td>
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<td>Exam - Average</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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**Overall grade percentage in class**

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<tr>
<th>Grading Scale:</th>
<th>A = 88 – 100%</th>
<th>C = 65 – 77.9%</th>
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<td>B = 78 – 87.9%</td>
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**EXPECTATIONS:**
It will be a collaborative and respectful environment in this class. I expect you to come to class with a commitment to learn and to take responsibility for your learning. This means participating in the discussions and in-group work, taking notes, and helping others to learn. Please ask questions and let me know if you have difficulties. If you feel you may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability, please contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. You will be asked to leave if you engage in any inappropriate behavior during class.

**CLASSROOM RULES:**

1. **THIS IS AN ELECTRONIC DEVICE-FREE CLASS!**
   This means NO cell phone, NO texting, NO iPods or iPhones, NO Blackberries, or any other device that might be invented during semester. You are welcome to use a computer to take notes but non-class-related Internet surfing is expressly forbidden.
   
   All cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned OFF before class begins. I have absolutely ZERO tolerance for anyone abusing this request.

2. **CLASSES START PROMPTLY AT THE ASSIGNED TIME!**
   As a courtesy to your fellow students and to the instructor, please be on time. By taking this class you have committed yourself to two hours and thirty minutes of learning. I expect you to stay in the class for the complete assigned time period. Take care of your personal business before or after class.

3. **COME TO CLASS PREPARED!**
   You absolutely must keep up with the readings. You grade depends on it. Interact with the class. Ask questions anytime. It’s okay to interrupt the lecture if you want to question something or make a point.
Challenge yourself and your classmates. When you leave this class you will have a great understanding of the materials.

Neither food nor drinks are allowed in the classroom with the exception of bottled water.

**TALKING:**
I want your input during the lecture, so if you have questions please ask. Additionally, I will often ask for student feedback during class. However, *chit-chatting amongst yourselves during the lecture is distracting for other students. Any student who persists in talking during the lecture will be asked to leave class.*

**EXCUSES:**
You know the course policies and you know what is expected of you. Please do not come to me with excuses about why you were absent or why you did not get your work in on time. If a personal crisis arises, talk with me and let me know what is going on before you jeopardize your success in the course. It is your responsibility to get the notes and copies of handouts from a classmate. You are responsible for all assignments (those on the schedule as well as those assigned in class). Being absent is not an acceptable excuse for incomplete work. *I suggest that you trade phone numbers and/or email addresses with at least two classmates immediately so you can contact them for information in case you are ever absent.*

**DROP POLICY:**
Roll will be taken every class meeting. It is your responsibility to drop the class if you decide not to finish the course. If you stop attending and do not drop, and I do not exclude you, your name will appear on the grade roster at the end of the semester and there will be no choice but to assign a Fail grade. So be sure to officially drop if you do not intend to finish the course.

- Last day to drop class without a grade of “W” is March 6th, 2011.
- Last day to drop class on-line only with a grade of “W” is May 8th, 2011.

**COMPUTER LAB/TUTORING:**
You should visit Math Tutoring Center in Village 8402. Tutors and instructors are waiting there, eager to help you. The computer software that accompanies your text is available there. It is free. Math tutoring hours for this semester are the following:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
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<tr>
<td>Math Tutoring: Village 8402</td>
<td>Monday- Thursday 9:30AM – 7:00PM (Closed 1:30 - 2:30 Daily) Closed on Fridays</td>
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<td>Computer Lab: Village 8406</td>
<td>Monday- Thursday 10:30AM – 7:00PM (Closed 3:00 - 4:00 Daily) Closed on Fridays</td>
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**EXTRA CREDIT: 3%**
- Never absence, never late or Leaving early for class and complete on all on-line assignments.
- Completely filled in all lecture notes sheets. (Must be on my lecture notes sheet only)
- NO EXCEPTION ANY CIRCUMSTANCE!
**STUDY TIPS:**
- Start homework as soon as possible. Rewrite the problem being asked. Place a star (*) next to problems you need help with.
- Read the book.
- Study every night for 1 – 3 hours in a quiet room at home or in the library.
- Review problems that were the most difficult and practice weak areas. (Including previous exams)
- Create flash cards.
- Make an appointment if you need extra help
- You may also tutor one another by forming a study group with those in class.

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All turn-in assignments, quizzes and exam must be done in PENCIL and must be stapled.
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**YOU MUST REGISTER IN COURSECOMPASS BY MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21\textsuperscript{ST} AT 11:59 PM.**
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<td>Exam 4 Ch. 7 &amp; 8 (4:20 - 5:55pm) Lecture 9.2 Reading 9.3, 9.4</td>
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**Final Exam - Saturday, June 4 3:30-5:45 p.m.**
Welcome Students!

**If You Are First Time Using MyMathLab**

*MyMathLab* is an interactive website where you can:

- Self-test & work through practice exercises with step-by-step help to improve your math skills.
- Study more efficiently with a personalized study plan and exercises that match your book.
- Get help when YOU need it. MyMathLab includes multimedia learning aids, videos, animations, and live tutorial help.

**Before You Begin:**
To register for MyMathLab you will need:

- A MyMathLab student access code (packaged with your new text, standalone at your bookstore, or available for purchase with a major credit card at [www.coursecompass.com](http://www.coursecompass.com))
- Your instructors' Course ID: srichoom35158
- Your school's zip code: 91371
- A valid email address: ________________________________
  (Please use CSUN email address)

**Student Registration:**

- Under Students, click Register.
- Read the “Before you start” information and click Next.
- Enter your Course ID exactly as provided by your instructor and click “Find Course.” Your course information should appear. If not, contact your instructor to verify the correct Course ID.
- Select Access Code, type your Access Code in the fields provided (one word per field), and click Next. If you do not have an access code, click Buy Now and follow those prompts to purchase and register.
- Read the License Agreement and Privacy Policy and click “I Accept.”
- On the Access Information Screen, you'll be asked whether you already have a Pearson Education Account. Click:
  - "YES" if you have registered for other Pearson online products and already have a login name and password. Fields will appear for you to enter your existing login information.
  - "NO" if this is the first time you have registered for a Pearson online product. Boxes will appear for you to create your login name and password.
  - "NOT SURE" if you want to check for a pre-existing account and receive an email with your login name and password.

Simply follow the registration screens and enter your information as prompted. You will enter your name, email address, school information, and provide a security question/answer to ensure the privacy of your account.

Once your registration is complete, you will see a Confirmation screen (this information will also be emailed to you). Simply print your confirmation (remember to write down your login name and password) and you are now ready to Log in and access your resources!

**Logging In:**

- Go to [www.coursecompass.com](http://www.coursecompass.com) and click on Log In.
• Enter your **login name** and **password** and click **Log in**.
• On the left, click on the name of your course.

The first time you enter your course from your own computer and anytime you use a new computer, click the **Installation Wizard** or **Browser Check** on the Announcements page. After completing the installation process and closing the wizard you will be on your course home page and ready to explore your MyMathLab resources!

**Need help?**
Contact Product Support at [http://www.mathxl.com/support/contactus.htm](http://www.mathxl.com/support/contactus.htm) for live CHAT, email, or phone support **800-677-6337**.

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**Enrolling in Another MyMathLab Course using the SAME Textbook**

*(New student access code NOT required)*

1. Go to [www.coursecompass.com](http://www.coursecompass.com) and log in using the login name and password you created when you initially registered for your MyMathLab course.

2. In the **Courses** box, click the **Enroll in Another Course** button.

3. On the **Product Selection** screen, enter the course ID for the new course you wish to enroll in and click on **Find Course**: **srichoom35158**
4. On the **Confirm Course** screen, verify that the course is correct and click on **Next**.

5. After a few moments you will see the **Confirmation and Summary** screen acknowledging your access to the new course. To log into your new course, click on **Enter Course Now**.

6. At the **Course Compass** login screen login using your same login and password.

7. On the **My CourseCompass** screen you’ll see your new course in your **Courses** box.
8. You may continue to see both courses when you log in. If the instructor for the previous course removes you from that course roster, you will no longer see that course listed in your Courses box.

9. **Be sure to enter and work in the correct course.** Verify the course name, course ID and instructor name to ensure you are working in the correct course. *If you aren’t sure, check with the instructor of your new course.*

10. If you have questions or need assistance enrolling in another MyMathLab course contacts the student support team at 1 800 677-6337 or go to http://mymathlab.com/contactus_stu.html.

**STEPS TO DO ONLINE ASSIGNMENTS:**
1. Go to http://www.coursecompass.com/
2. Log in using your personal user name and password.
3. Click on Math 125 Intermediate Algebra Spring 2011 Pierce College
4. Click on DO HOMEWORK on the left column.
5. Click on THE NAME OF THE ASSIGNMENT.
6. Click on question number 1.(you will see the question, work on it and write the answer down in the box)
7. Click Check Answer every time you work on each problem.
8. Click 2 on the tap to move on to the second question, then follows steps 6.
9. You can finish homework at once or you can work on them a little bit by a little bit each day, but make sure to click save each time you work on the assignment.