

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS – Los Angeles Mission College

**MATH 112 – Pre-Algebra (3 Units)**

**Fall 2008**

**Section 0422, MW 9:05AM-10:30, Bungalow 1**

Instructor : Timothy Ferguson, MS, ASA  
 Email : fergustj@lamission.edu  
 Office : Classroom Voicemail: (818) 364-7600 x4849 (not recommended)  
 Office Hours : MW 8:50-9:05, TTh 10:30-10:55 and by appointment  
 Prerequisite : Math 105 or appropriate skill level demonstrated through the MATH assessment process.  
 Textbook: **Prealgebra (3rd Ed)** by Tussy&Gustafson (Thomson/Brookes/Cole 2006)  
**We will cover: Chaps 1 to 9 (except 8.3-8.5, 9.7).**  
 Important Dates: Last day to drop without a “W” – September 26  
 Last day to drop with a “W” – November 23  
 Final Exam – Wed., Dec 17, 10AM-Noon  
 Holidays – November 10, 27, 28

Course Description	This course is taught in lecture format. To excel at College level, the student should prepare for class by reading upcoming textbook material <b>before</b> it is covered in class. Familiarizing yourself with the material before hearing the lecture is an invaluable aid to understanding the material, and will save you time and effort in the long run. I will keep you informed as to what material is coming up. <b><u>Please bring your textbook to class.</u></b> <u>It is very important that you keep up with the lectures and in-class tests.</u> If you need more individual help, you should avail yourself of the math tutors in the Math Lab, and my office hours, listed above.
Learning Outcomes	1) Find the prime factorization of a given number 2) Evaluate expressions using order of operations 3) Simplify expressions with exponents 4) Solve equations with whole numbers and integers 5) Combine like terms 6) Analyze word problems, translate into linear equations and solve 7) Evaluate expressions with fractions and mixed numbers, including order of operations and complex fractions 8) Evaluate expressions with decimals and square roots 9) Analyze and graph linear equations 10) Convert numbers to percents and evaluate applications such as discounts, interest, commissions, etc. 11) Solve ratios and proportions, translate and solve word problems thereof 12) Calculate perimeters and areas of polygons 13) Distinguish between complementary and supplementary angles as well as acute, right, obtuse, and straight angles
Homework	<b><u>Do all the odd numbered problems at the end of each Section.</u></b> Doing the homework is extremely important, as the tests will be based on very similar problems. Although homework will not be collected, failure to do the homework (that is, failure to practice/rehearse/prepare for tests) is a sure way to fail any College course. This syllabus is based on the expectation that the student will put in two hours of homework for every hour of class-time.

Written Quizzes	There will be a quiz after Chapter 1. Quizzes (and Midterms) will usually be held the second class meeting after the Chapter is covered in class.
Midterms	There will be a Midterm after Chapters 3, 5, 7, and 9. Midterms may be comprehensive.
Final Exam	<b>Wednesday, December 17, 2008, 10:00am - Noon. Comprehensive.</b>
Grading	<p>Written quiz = 10 Class Points  Midterms = 60 Class Points (4 - 20 points each, throw out lowest 1)  Final exam = 30 Class Points</p> <p>This schedule means that there will be an exam approximately every 3 weeks.  <b><u>So keeping up with the class schedule is extremely important!</u></b></p> <p>Your final grade for this course will be determined in the following way:  90 Class Points and above = A, 80-89 Class Points = B,  70-79 Class Points = C, 60-69 Class Points =D, Below 60 Points = F</p> <p><b>NO Make-up exams will be given. If you need to contact me outside of class and office hours, email is preferred.</b></p>
Attendance/ Behavior	All students are expected to arrive on time for the start of class. Please respect your fellow students by silencing cell phones and focus your attention on the class work. I promise not to disrupt your work related or personal conversations outside of class-time, so I ask/insist that students do not interrupt our class with their own personal conversations.

Additional Support material for this course includes: Software based tutorials, topic specific video presentations, and tutoring, available at the Math Lab in the Library.