Syllabus:
College Algebra
The School of Arts & Sciences
St. Thomas Aquinas College

Requirements:

      Textbook: College Algebra 9e Author Ron Larson

      Calculator: A graphing calculator is required.

Student learning Objectives:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should be able to apply calculations to real life.

Course Description and objectives:

The course is intended to prepare the students for calculus. Topics will include, but not limited to :
Functions, rates of change, linear functions, constructing graphs parallel and perpendicular lines, solving linear equations and linear inequalities, powers of 10 with positive and negative exponents, exponential growth, solving exponential equations, graphs of power function, quadratic functions

Course policy, Attendance:

Regular and prompt attendance is required. If you are late, don't walk in front of the instructor. Excessive absence or lateness will result in a reduction in your grade. If you are going to be absent, please notify me by e-mail. I will get back to you. I check my e-mail frequently.

College Policy on Electronic Devices in the Classroom:

Students must turn off their cell-phones or put them on vibrate if they are expecting an emergency call. Violators will be dealt with appropriately. The use of computers to take notes is acceptable but not advisable.   Graphing calculators will be used in class.

Homework assignments: Homework will be given on Webassign. It will be graded by the program. Webassign will give you examples on how to do the program and will be very useful in making up work if you are absent. Details will be explained in class.

Quizzes, Exams and Final exams:

Student's grades will be based on exams and homework plus a final. If a student has an 'A' average by the end of the term which will include homework and tests, he or she will be exempt from taking the final. Make up tests will be given in class online the day after the test. If you miss both tests, you will be penalized.

Office hours: I have no office but if anyone wishes to speak to me about anything, just let me know and we'll speak privately in the adjunct professors' office on Tuesday at 11:15.

Academic integrity: Students must be committed to honesty, fairness, respect and responsibility. The faculty is also expected to adhere to these standards. Dishonesty on a test will be dealt with severely. The student handbook will dictate the appropriate action taken.

Special needs: If anyone needs special accommodations, please see me and we'll make arrangements.

Course Evaluation:
Your final grade will be based on the following formula:

A = 100-95   A- = 94-90   B+ =89-87   B = 86-83   B- = 82-80   C+ = 79-77

C = 76-73   C- = 72-70   D = 69-65   F= <65

I reserve the right to subtract from your grade for disrespectful behavior towards the class. I will speak to you in advance. If I feel you are making an exceptional effort, I reserve the right to add to your grade.

If you feel you already know this course, you have two choices. The first would be to drop out and take the next course with permission from your advisor. The second would be to take the course and receive a good grade. If you choose the latter, make sure you do know the course and study for all exams. All quizzes will be given on the webassign program. I will let you know when they will be and you will have a time limit to take the quiz.

Course Topics:

Chapter 1: Sections 1,2,4,5,6,7 Graphs, linear equations, quadratic equations, complex numbers, radical equations and inequalities

Chapter 2: Sections1,2,3,6 Linear equations in two variables, functions, graphs of functions, and composite functions

Chapter 3: Sections 1,2,3,4 Quadratic functions, polynomials of higher degrees, polynomial and synthetic division, and zeros of polynomial functions

Chapter 4: Section 3 Conics

Chapter 5: Sections 1,2,3,4 Exponential and logarithmic functions, properties of logs and exponential and logarithmic equations

Chapter 6: Sections 1,2,3,4 Linear and nonlinear systems of equations, two variable and multivariable equations and partial fractions

Chapter8: Sections 1,2,3,4,5 Arithmetic and geometric sequences, partial fractions and systems of inequalities.

The best years of your life are the ones in which you decide your problems are your own. You don't blame them on your mother, the ecology or the president. You realize that you control your own destiny.

Albert Ellis --Psychologist