

**Course Code & No. - Section:** MATH 90 – Section 4  
**Course Title (Credits):** Intermediate Algebra (3)  
**Term & Year:** Fall / 2015  
**Course Ref. No. (CRN):** 80650

**Instructor:** Gigi Giles  
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**Office:** TCES 214  
**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Class Meeting Time:** T Th 2:30-3:45 PM  
**Location:** PA 211

**Prerequisites:** none  
**Corequisites:** none

### Course Description

This is a review course of basic algebra and a preparation for Math Reasoning (MATH 101) and higher mathematics courses. Basic concepts of geometry, roots, radicals, exponents, factors, polynomials, and quadratic equations are covered. Use of a calculator or computer is encouraged, where applicable, to solve problems. Emphasis on graphing and word problems. Not a college-level course (does not count toward graduation and does not fulfill Math requirement for core curriculum).

### Student Outcomes

The course is designed to guide students toward mathematical proficiency by providing opportunities where learners may practice and demonstrate:

1. A sense of numbers and the ability to discern whether a proposed numerical answer to a problem is reasonable—the ability to think correctly about numbers, and use data to make intelligent decisions in life.
2. The ability to use mathematical knowledge to confront unfamiliar problems both in concrete and abstract situations—modeling a mathematical problem in several ways to facilitate a solution.
3. The ability to discuss the mathematical ideas involved in a problem with other people and to write coherently about mathematical topics and their interrelations.
4. General reasoning powers—understanding of mathematical implications and knowledge of how various mathematical statements are derived from basic ideas.
5. General algebraic proficiency—the ability to manipulate algebraic expressions, and an understanding of the interrelationships between symbolic, numeric, and graphic representations of real-world phenomena.
6. The ability to visualize, compare, and transform problems geometrically—an understanding of the connections between algebra and geometry.
7. An understanding of the uses of mathematics in other disciplines and the use of technology in solving mathematical problems.
8. The ability to gather, organize, display, and summarize data—the ability to draw conclusions or make predictions from data.

The Mathematical Association of America (MAA) Committee on the Undergraduate Program in Mathematics (CUPM) has made the following preliminary recommendations:

- Students should achieve mastery of a rich and diverse set of mathematical ideas and should experience mathematics as an engaging field with contemporary open questions.
- Students should be able to think analytically and critically, to formulate and solve problems, and to interpret their solutions. They should understand and appreciate the value and validity of careful reasoning, precise definition, and close argument.

- Students should have experience applying knowledge from one branch of mathematics to another and from mathematics to other disciplines.
- Students should be able to use a variety of technology tools.
- Students should be able to communicate mathematics both orally and in writing; they should be able to read mathematics.

### Methods of Assessing Student Outcomes

Class participation, homework problems, quizzes, and exams.

### Instructional Strategies

Computer-based and lecture-based instruction. This includes live and video lectures, powerpoints, and animations.

### Texts and Materials

1. Required: MyMathLab Access Code.
2. Required: Access to a computer (one that meets the published SNC Computer Requirements) and internet.
3. Recommended: Scientific calculator.
4. Optional: Elayn Martin-Gay, Beginning and Intermediate Algebra, 5e. ISBN: 978-0-321-78512-1

### Required Assessments

- Homework: 30%
- Quizzes: 20%
- Chapter Tests: 30%
- Cumulative Final Exam: 20%

### Grading Policy

All exams and assessments will be graded on the following straight scale:

A	B	C	D	F
90 – 100%	80 – 89%	70 – 79%	60 – 69%	Below 60%

### Attendance Policy

It is highly recommended that students do not miss any class sessions. Over the course of the semester, class will meet for 20 lectures, 7 chapter tests, and 1 cumulative final. **Attendance is mandatory for tests and final.** Attendance to lectures will be rewarded with points added directly to the final grade at semester end. The breakdown is as follows:

# Lectures Attended	17 – 20	13 – 16	9 – 12	5 – 8	2 – 4
Bonus points	5	4	3	2	1

### Homework Policy

Homework will be completed in MyMathLab. There are one to four homework assignments for each chapter. Each lecture corresponds directly to a specific homework assignment. Chapters 1 and 2 are combined, and all other chapters are taught independently. All homework assignments for a chapter will be due on the same date. For example: Chapter 3 has three homework assignments. All three assignments are due on the same date. Homework due dates are posted in MyMathLab. I **strongly** recommend that you complete homework well in advance of the due date. **Late homework will not be accepted.** Lack of internet access is not a valid excuse for late or missing homework. The three lowest homework grades will be dropped.

### Quiz Policy

There is one quiz per chapter in MyMathLab. You can retake quizzes as many times as you like (to obtain a better grade). Quiz due dates are posted in MyMathLab. **Late quizzes will not be accepted.** When taking quizzes, access to MyMathLab learning aids are not provided. However, when reviewing quizzes, learning aids are available. Quizzes may be completed any time before the due date. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

## Test and Exam Policy

**Tests must be completed in class.** There is one test per chapter--with the exception of Chapters 1 and 2, which are combined. Each test is administered in MyMathLab, and is taken in the LockDown Browser. The LockDown Browser is to be downloaded from MyMathLab. You may use a handheld calculator during tests, but not a mobile device. Please bring paper and pencil to test. Tests may be taken early if necessary. You must arrange with me in advance to schedule an early test. **Tests may never be taken late** (unless arrangements are made with me, prior to the test day. See the course schedule for Final Exam date and time. If a student has an average of 90% or better, going into the Final Exam, he or she may opt out of the Final Exam.

## MyMathLab

Every student is **required** to have a software license to MyMathLab. Students can purchase the license either from the SNC bookstore or online at [pearsonmylabandmastering.com](http://pearsonmylabandmastering.com). The license gives access to the e-text. Please note that **most used textbooks do not include the MyMathLab license!** Access the course using the Course ID (see below). Please see the Student Registration Handout for further instructions on how to register for MyMathLab.

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## How To Succeed In This Course

- **Keep up with the work!** Math can be a difficult subject. It is imperative that you keep up with the work as scheduled. Check the schedule regularly and don't miss assignments.
- **Work at your own pace.** This is a computer-based learning class. This means that you may work at your own pace, but do not fall behind scheduled due dates and test dates. I encourage you to work ahead of the schedule if possible.
- **Make use of the Tutoring Center.** I have limited office hours; therefore, it is imperative that you attend lectures and use the Tutoring Center if you need assistance. The Tutoring Center is located on the third floor of the Prim Library building. It is open for drop-in math tutoring, and computers are available for use. See <http://www.sierranvada.edu/academics/academic-services/tutoring-center/> for hours.
- **Form a study group!** Study groups can be a tremendous source of help. You can work on homework together; however, be aware that MyMathLab questions and answers may vary amongst students. Please be sure to submit answers to *your* specific math problems.

## Important Dates for Fall 2015

- August 23: last day to drop with 100% refund
- September 7: Labor Day, campus closed
- October 30: Nevada Day, campus closed
- November 11: Veteran's Day, campus closed
- November 23-27: Thanksgiving Break
- December 7: Study Day, no classes
- December 8-12: Finals Week, see schedule for time and date of Final Exam.

## Prim Library Resources

Using the library's resources effectively (not just Internet resources) contributes to developing each of SNC's core themes by exposing students to high quality academic resources, diverse opinions, new ideas, and a future that includes building on a liberal arts education. In this course, you will be expected to utilize the library's resources (either on-site or remotely) as you complete your assignments.

## Sanctions for Cheating and/or Plagiarism

### The Honor Code

The faculty of SNC believes students must be held to high standards of integrity in all aspects of college life in order to promote the educational mission of the College and to encourage respect for the rights of others. Each student brings to the SNC community unique skills, talents, values and experiences which, when expressed within the community, contribute to the quality of the educational environment and the growth and development of the

individual. Students share with members of the faculty, administration and staff the responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment conducive to learning and personal development, where actions are guided by mutual respect, integrity, responsibility, and trust. The faculty and students alike must make diligent efforts to ensure high standards are upheld by their colleagues and peers as well as themselves. Therefore, faculty and students accept responsibility for maintaining these standards at Sierra Nevada College and are obligated to comply with its regulations and procedures, which they are expected to read and understand.

### **Consequences of Violating the Student Honor Code**

SNC students and faculty share the responsibility for maintaining an environment of academic honesty. Thus, all are responsible for knowing and abiding by the SNC Faculty/Student Honor Code published in the current SNC Catalog. Faculty are responsible for presenting the Honor Code and the consequences of violating it to students at the start of their classes AND for reporting all incidences of academic dishonesty to the Provost. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes CHEATING, PLAGIARISM and FABRICATION and for refraining from these and other forms of academic dishonesty. Violations of the Honor Code become part of a student's academic record.

1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Student receives a zero for assignment/exam and counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.

2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Student fails course and receives counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.

3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Student is expelled.

### **ADA Accommodations**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, students with a documented disability are eligible for support services and accommodations. If a student wishes to request an accommodation, please contact the Director of Academic Support Services, Henry Conover, at (775) 831-1314 x7534, [hconover@sierranevada.edu](mailto:hconover@sierranevada.edu), office in Prim Library: PL-304.

### **The SNC Email System**

The SNC email system is the official communication vehicle among students, faculty members, and administrative staff and is designed to protect the confidentiality of student information as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 Act (FERPA). Students should check their college email accounts daily during the school year.

Students have a right to forward their SNC e-mail to another e-mail account (for example, @hotmail or @gmail). However, confidentiality of student information protected by FERPA cannot be guaranteed for SNC e-mail forwarded to an outside vendor. Having email redirected does not absolve a student from the responsibilities associated with official communication sent to his or her SNC email account.

### **The Sierra Nevada College Mission Statement**

Sierra Nevada College graduates will be educated to be scholars of and contributors to a sustainable world. Sierra Nevada College combines the liberal arts and professional preparedness through an interdisciplinary curriculum that emphasizes entrepreneurial thinking and environmental, social, economic, and educational sustainability.

### **The Core Themes:**

Liberal Arts

Professional Preparedness

Entrepreneurial Thinking

Sustainability

**Course Schedule: MATH 90-Section 4**

Wk 1	T	Aug 18	Review Syllabus	Ch. O: Orientation
	Th	Aug 20	Lecture 1	1.3 – 1.4
Wk 2	T	Aug 25	Lecture 2	1.5 – 1.7
	Th	Aug 27	Lecture 3	2.1 – 2.3 & 2.8
Wk 3	T	Sep 1	Lecture 4	2.4 – 2.7
	Th	Sep 3	Test	Ch 1 & 2
Wk 4	T	Sep 8	Lecture 5	3.1 – 3.2
	Th	Sep 10	Lecture 6	3.3 – 3.4
Wk 5	T	Sep 15	Lecture 7	3.5 – 3.6
	Th	Sep 17	Test	Ch 3
Wk 6	T	Sep 22	Lecture 8	4.1 – 4.3
	Th	Sep 24	Test	Ch 4
Wk 7	T	Sep 29	Lecture 9	5.1 – 5.2
	Th	Oct 1	Lecture 10	5.3 – 5.5
Wk 8	T	Oct 6	Lecture 11	5.6 – 5.7
	Th	Oct 8	Test	Ch 5
Wk 9	T	Oct 13	Lecture 12	6.1
	Th	Oct 15	Lecture 13	6.2 – 6.4
Wk 10	T	Oct 20	Lecture 14	6.5 – 6.6
	Th	Oct 22	Test	Ch 6
Wk 11	T	Oct 27	Lecture 15	7.1 – 7.2
	Th	Oct 29	Lecture 16	7.3– 7.4
Wk 12	T	Nov 3	Lecture 17	7.5 – 7.6
	Th	Nov 5	Test	Ch 7
Wk 13	T	Nov 10	Lecture 18	10.1 – 10.3
	Th	Nov 12	Lecture 19	10.4 – 10.5
Wk 14	T	Nov 17	Lecture 20	10.6
	Th	Nov 19	Test	Ch 10
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	Th	Nov 26		
Wk 15	T	Dec 1	Review Day in Class	
	Th	Dec 3	Review Day in Class	
FINAL	Fri	Dec 11	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	<b>11:30-2:30 PM</b>