

**Course Code & No. - Section:** Math 90 - Section 4  
**Course Title (Credits):** Intermediate Algebra (3)  
**Term & Year:** Fall / 2014  
**Course Ref. No. (CRN):** 80616

**Instructor:** Katie (Larkin) McConaghy  
**Email:** [piontheside@gmail.com](mailto:piontheside@gmail.com)  
**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Class Meeting Time:** T/Th 2:30 – 3:45am  
**Location:** TCES 202

**Prerequisites:** None

### Course Description

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, quadratic equations are covered. Use of a calculator or computer is encouraged, where applicable, to solve problems. Emphasis on graphing and word problems. Is not a college-level course. (Does not count toward graduation and does not fulfill Math requirement for the Core curriculum.)

### Student Outcomes

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

1. A sense of number and the ability to discern whether a proposed numerical answer to a problem is reasonable – the ability to think correctly about numbers and to 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 implication and knowledge of why various mathematical statements follow from more basic ideas.
5. General algebraic proficiency – the ability to manipulate algebraic expressions – an understanding of the interrelationships between the 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 the solution of 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's (MAA) Committee on the Undergraduate Program in Mathematics (CUPM) in developing future mathematics curriculum has made the following preliminary recommendations

- Students should achieve mastery of rich and diverse set of mathematical ideas and should experience mathematics as an engaging field with contemporary open questions.
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- 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**

Homework problems, quizzes, exams.

**Instructional Strategies**

Computer-based instruction (this includes video lectures, powerpoints, and animations)

**Required Texts and Materials**

1. Optional – Elayn Martin-Gay, Beginning & Intermediate Algebra, 5e ISBN: 978-0-321-78512-1
2. Scientific calculator
3. MyMathLab Access Code

**Class Requirements**

- Homework – 30%
- Quizzes – 10%
- Chapter Tests – 40%
- Cumulative Final Exam – 20%

**Grading Policy**

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

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

**Attendance Policy**

Attendance will be recorded in the beginning of class but it will not directly affect a student's grade.

However, if a student misses a class in which a test was given, the student will receive a zero for that test and it cannot be made up.

**Homework Policy**

Homework will be completed in MyMathLab. All the homework for the same chapter will be due on the same date. It is **STRONGLY** recommended that you complete the homework many days in advance of the due date. Late homework will not be accepted. Not having internet access is not a valid excuse for missing homework. Homework may be done during class or outside of class. The lowest two homework grades will be dropped.

**Quiz Policy**

There will be one quiz per chapter. Each quiz will be done in MyMathLab. You can re-do a quiz as many times as you'd like until you attain the desired grade. You may not complete a quiz for credit after the due date. While taking the quiz, you will not be given the option to use additional resources to help you solve the problem. However, when reviewing a submitted quiz, you can use the optional instructional aids for learning purposes. Quizzes may be completed during class or outside of class. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

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**Exam Policy**

There will be one test per chapter. Each test will be done in MyMathLab. TESTS MUST BE COMPLETED DURING CLASS TIME. You may use a calculator for all tests. Tests cannot be made up unless an arrangement has been made with me PRIOR to exam day given an acceptable reason for missing. The final exam will be cumulative and will be given on Wednesday, 12/10/14 from 11:30 – 2:30. If a student has an average of 90% or better going into the final exam, he or she may opt out of taking the final exam.

**MyMathLab**

It is **required** to have a software license to use the software MyMathLab in this class. Students can purchase the license alone either from the bookstore or online at [pearsonmylab.com](http://pearsonmylab.com). The license gives you access to the textbook online. If you purchase a used textbook, you will also need to purchase the software license. When you first attempt to log on you will need to put in the following course ID: **larkin76962**. Please see the 'Student Registration Handout' for further instructions on registering for MyMathLab.

**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 in this class! Pay attention to the schedule 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 you cannot fall behind the due dates for each chapter. You are encouraged to work ahead of the schedule if you find yourself understanding the material at a faster pace.
- **Make use of the Tutoring Center!** I have limited office hours, therefore it is imperative that you get the most out of my lectures and go to the Tutoring Center if you're having any trouble at all and need some assistance. The Tutoring Center, staffed with knowledgeable tutors, is located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of Prim Library and is open for math drop-in tutoring. There are also computers available for use. Check out the website for more information: [SNC Tutoring Center](#)
- **Form study groups!** They can be a great source of help! You can work together on homework assignments, but you need to submit the answer you believe is correct.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- **Aug 24:** Last day to drop with 100% refund
- **Sept 1:** Labor Day – SNC closed
- **Oct 27:** Last day to change grade status or withdraw without academic penalty
- **Oct 31:** Nevada Day – SNC closed
- **Nov 11:** Veteran's Day – SNC closed
- **Nov 24 – 28:** Thanksgiving Break – no classes
- **Dec 8:** Study Day – no classes
- **Dec 10:** Final Exam (11:30 – 2:30)

**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**

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**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

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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

**SNC - Math 90 - Section 4 - Fall 2014**

Chapter	Topic	Due Date
1	Review of Real Numbers	Thurs, 8/28
2	Equations, Inequalities, & Problem Solving	Tues, 9/9
3	Graphing	Tues, 9/23
4	Solving Systems of Linear Equations	Thurs, 10/2
5	Exponents & Polynomials	Thurs, 10/16
6	Factoring Polynomials	Thurs, 10/30
7	Rational Expressions	Thurs, 11/13
10	Rational Exponents, Radicals, & Complex Numbers	Thurs, 12/4
	Cumulative Final Exam	Wed, 12/10, 11:30 – 2:30

*\*Subject to change.*