MTH 95 Intermediate Algebra

Instructor: Esther Chapman	**CRN:** 30140	**Term:** Winter 2020
Email: chapmae@linnbenton.edu	**Class Code:** 81	**Classroom:** WOH112
Office Hours: Monday, 9am	Learning Center	**Time:** 8:00 - 8:50 am, MTWF

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus/calendar at any time.

Course Description:

Credits: 4. Prerequisite: MTH 75 or Placement into the course.
Intermediate Algebra is a course that develops the concept of a function. It is designed for the student who has an algebraic foundation (Math 75). Topics include an investigation of different functions, their graphs, and properties. The functions included are linear, quadratic, polynomial, radical, and exponential. Problem solving, technology, and cooperative learning is emphasized throughout the course. During the term, students will learn to recognize and express mathematical ideas graphically, numerically, symbolically, and in writing. Application problems are realistic with some data to be collected, analyzed and discussed in a group setting with results submitted in written form.

MTH 095 Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Interpret and analyze functions to find information such as domain, range, variable and function values by using a variety of tools that may include graphs, tables or given equations.
2. Model application problems using appropriate algebraic models, which may include linear, quadratic, and exponential.
3. Communicate mathematical concepts, processes and solutions.
4. Apply algebra skills to topics such as factoring polynomials, solving quadratic equations, and simplifying expressions.

Required Materials:

● Tablet or Laptop (available for purchase or rent in bookstore if you don't have one.) **Bring this to class every day.** Minimum specifications for use with ALEKS software: https://www.aleks.com/support/system_requirements
● ALEKS 360 access code for 11 weeks. (If a 52-week code was previously purchased, that may be continued.)
● Course Materials Packet

Recommended Materials:

● Scientific calculator; graphing calculators/phones are not allowed on tests.
● Three ring binder for your course packet, ALEKS notes and class notes

Grading Composition:

Category	Percent of Grade	Grading Scale
Attendance/Participation	10%	A: 90 -100%
ALEKS Weekly Objectives	15%	B: 80 – 89%
ALEKS Topics/Pie Overall	5%	C: 70 - 79%
In-Class Work	20%	D: 60 - 69%
ALEKS Skills Test 1	5%	F: 0 - 59%
ALEKS Skills Test 2	15%	
Midterm Exam	12%	Students may view their grades on the ALEKS website as "Total ALEKS Grade"
Final Exam	18%	

A grade of Incomplete may be assigned at my discretion under special circumstances.

In-Class Work:

Students will be actively participating in group learning activities every class meeting; they must be done in class and cannot be made up. The activities are the lessons for this course; they are designed to help students develop and understand the concepts behind the math skills and how to apply them to various situations. The experiences gained from working in groups is a major component in determining the student's success in this course. <u>Attendance is therefore required.</u> At the end of the quarter your lowest score from this category may be dropped.

Tests:

- The **Midterm Exam** will be taken in our classroom and it has a time limit of one hour. The test must be taken on the scheduled day. If you miss this test you will get a score of zero. Testing at an alternate time will only be allowed for special prearranged circumstances. However, the midterm exam grade may be replaced by the final exam score, up to a maximum of 75%. The *tentative* midterm exam date is listed on the course calendar.
- **The date and time of the Comprehensive Final Exam will not change: Wednesday, March 18, 2020. Students have 1 hour and 50 minutes to complete the exam.**
- The **two ALEKS Skills Tests** will be taken in Student Assessment in RCH-111. See my webpage for their hours. Once I have signed your testing ticket, you will have a few days to go in and take the test on your own time. These tests are taken in ALEKS and they are not timed. Refer to the test ticket for further information.

There are no notes or graphing calculators allowed during any of the tests.

Homework:

ALEKS is an adaptive online homework website; you will need to purchase an access code. Your skills work will be completed on this site. Each week's skills, called "Objectives," will be available for a given length of time; your score at the time of the deadline will be recorded as a homework grade for that week. You should be working in ALEKS throughout the week, as ALEKS will train you in the mathematics skills you will need to do the in-class activities. Students who are current in their ALEKS are much more capable of completing the activities on time.
If you finish your ALEKS work before the deadline, you may work on other topics in the course.

ALEKS Homework Guidelines:

You should keep a notebook for your ALEKS homework. You are expected to work through each problem and then write up neat, readable solutions for your notebook as if you were turning them in. Include the original problem unless it is a lengthy word problem. This will give you a study reference for testing. I may check this at any time for participation points.

Attendance/Late Work Policies:

Attendance is mandatory. If you miss a class, you will not get credit for any activities completed or submitted that day unless prior arrangements have been made. Late work is not accepted unless prior arrangements have been made.

Webpage:

I will have many useful links for you on my webpage, so be sure to bookmark it. You will use it for:
● Accessing ALEKS
● Referring to any lecture notes
● Checking testing center hours
● Finding information about getting help and where to study (Learning Centers/Math Cafe)
● Accessing online office hours
● How to get accommodations (CFAR)

Expectations:

● I expect that my students will be involved in class. This includes being present, asking questions and participating in discussions and group work. (I note excellent attendance/attitude and will sometimes "bump up" a borderline grade for such students.)
● You should come to class prepared (this means you should bring your notebook, tablet/laptop, etc. in addition to having your work with you). Spend **at least 8 hours per week working on this class, in addition to the meeting times.**
● Be current in ALEKS. Look at the activities coming in the week and browse the objectives in ALEKS for the skills needed for those activities.

- I expect you will be respectful of everyone in the class, in word as well as behavior. Along these lines, I ask that you turn off and/or put away your cell phone, mp3 player, laptop, etc. during class unless it is being used for an activity so as to avoid causing a distraction.
- There will not be many lectures in this course, so at the times that I need to present information to the class, I request your attention. That means to put computers and activities away and to cease side conversations.

LBCC Email:

You are responsible for all communications sent via ALEKS and to your LBCC email account. You are required to use your LBCC provided email account for all email communications at the College. If you do not know how to access either of these, ask for help immediately.

Help Resources

- If you have questions, PLEASE **come see me** and ask! I have scheduled office hours for this, but you're welcome to schedule other times to meet with me as well. Also, I can host online office hours via a link on my webpage.
- **Study groups** are strongly encouraged! Many students find that working with classmates is the best way to learn and understand the material.
- Don't forget about the **e-book and videos** available on ALEKS.
- Each LBCC campus has some facility with Math Help available. Please remember to log on and log off the computer with each visit to the Help Facility. They offer individual and small group tutoring in addition to the help desk, group study spaces, free WiFi, and outlets..

Computers

You should bring a computer or tablet to every class session. Laptops are usually available for short-term check out from the Library. Computer labs are open to students in the Library and in the Learning Center. Laptops are also available for use in the Math Cafe.

Academic Honesty:

I assume that you are ethical and honest. However, if there is an incident of academic dishonesty (cheating), you will receive a score of zero for that test/assignment and the incident will be reported to the college administration for possible further disciplinary action. If there is a second offense, you will receive a grade of F for the course and the incident will be reported to the college administration with a recommendation for disciplinary action.

Special Circumstances:

Students who may need accommodations due to documented disabilities, who have medical information which the instructor should know, or who need special arrangements in an emergency should speak with their instructor during the first week of class. If you believe you may need accommodations but are not yet registered with the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR), please visit the **CFAR Website** for steps on how to apply for services or call (541) 917-4789.

LBCC Comprehensive Statement of Nondiscrimination:

LBCC prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, religion, ethnicity, use of native language, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, marital status, disability, veteran status, age, or any other status protected under applicable federal, state, or local laws. For further information see Board Policy P1015 in our Board Policies and Administrative Rules. Title II, IX, & Section 504: Scott Rolen, CC-108, 541-917-4425; Lynne Cox, T-107B, 541-917-4806, LBCC, Albany, Oregon. To report: linnbenton-advocate.symplicity.com/public_report