

# MTH 95 Intermediate Algebra, Fall 2021, CRN 20175 / 20706

**Instructor: Jeff Thomson** 

Email: thomsoj@linnbenton.edu

Virtual Office Hours: By appointment only

# MTH 95 Intermediate Algebra Course Description

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. Credits 4 Prerequisite: MTH 75 or Placement into the course.

# MTH 095 Student Learning Outcomes

- 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 (Avoid Chromebooks.) To check the minimum computer specifications to use ALEKS and the lockdown browser, go to the webpage at <a href="https://www.aleks.com/support/lockdown\_system\_requirements">https://www.aleks.com/support/lockdown\_system\_requirements</a>
- Computer microphone and webcam is a school-wide general requirement.
- ALEKS 360 access code for 11 weeks. This should cost \$60. (If a 52-week code was previously purchased, that may be continued.)
- For online proctored testing there will be a required lockdown browser download and video monitoring.

 Math 95 Course Materials and Information Packet for Fall 2021 through Summer 2022 ordered through the LBCC bookstore to be mailed or picked up.

#### **Recommended Materials**

- Non-graphing, scientific calculator for testing. Graphing Calculators are not allowed on tests.
- Three ring binder for your course activity packet, ALEKS notes, and class notes.

### **Grading Policies**

Category	Percent of Grade	<b>Grading Scale</b>
ALEKS Weekly Objectives	20%	A: 90 -100%
ALEKS Topics/Pie Overall	5%	B: 80 – 89%
In-Class Work	25%	C: 70 - 79%
ALEKS Skills Test 1	5%	D: 60 - 69%
ALEKS Skills Test 2	15%	F: 0 - 59%
Midterm Exam	12%	
Final Exam	18%	

Students may view their grades on the ALEKS website.

A grade of Incomplete may be assigned at the discretion of the instructor under special circumstances. The student must have completed the majority of the course, been in regular attendance, and maintained a passing grade in the course prior to the special circumstance.

#### **Tests**

All exams and skills tests will be taken from your own home and will be proctored using a lockdown browser and video camera monitoring. The lockdown browser is a one-time download.

- The Midterm Exam will be taken in ALEKS and it has a time limit of two hours. If you miss
  this test you will get a score of zero
- The two ALEKS Skills Tests will be taken in ALEKS. These tests are not timed

#### Homework

ALEKS is an adaptive online homework website (www.aleks.com). 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 and you must learn those skills and demonstrate mastery by the deadline date and time. Your score at the time of the deadline will

be recorded as a homework grade for that week. Students who finish their ALEKS work before the deadline can work on other topics in the course pie.

#### **ALEKS Homework Guidelines**

You should keep a notebook of loose-leaf paper for your ALEKS homework. You are expected to work through each problem and then write up neat, readable solutions for your notebook. Include the original problem unless it is a lengthy word problem. This will give you a study reference before testing.

### **Drop for NonAttendance or NonParticipation**

During the first week of the term, the instructor may drop students for not attending class, not completing work, and not completing the ALEKS initial knowledge check by a certain day.

#### **Late Work**

Late work is not accepted. If arrangements need to be made, they need to be made BEFORE an assignment due date.

### Help

If you have questions, PLEASE ask! **Study groups** are 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.

# **Use the Learning Center and Free Tutoring Services**

The Learning Center is an excellent resource, where you can get help with your homework in person or you may get math help remotely.

- Albany campus Learning Center Math Desk in-person hours: 9-12 and 2-5 M-F; 11-4 Saturday.
  - Remote Math Support services for all levels of math are available through a single Zoom link: https://linnbenton.zoom.us/j/94627678411.
    - Open from 9am 8pm Monday through Friday, 11am 4pm Friday, and 11am 4pm on Saturday.
    - The Learning Center has a Discord server. This is a space where students can meet, get help with, and collaborate on their studies. Students (and faculty) are welcome to join us at <a href="https://discord.gg/geMqSqV">https://discord.gg/geMqSqV</a>.
    - You are also eligible for free tutoring through the <u>Tutoring Center</u>.

Additionally, the Math Support Team offers success coaching by appointment that can include

- study strategies, note taking, learning with online homework, time management schedule, etc.
- o making a catch-up plan, to get up to date on assignments.
- o preparing for an exam.
- o understanding and navigating online homework.

### **Expectations**

- You do NOT need to come to scheduled class times
- For any zoom sessions, your camera does NOT have to be turned on
- All tests, however, require web cameras to be turned on

- I expect that you help each other by responding to questions posed by fellow classmates in the weekly forums
- Most importantly, I expect you to ask questions when you have them! I cannot see when you
  are struggling so you must reach out and tell me so that I can work with you on whatever
  you need

### **LBCC Email**

You are responsible for all communications sent via ALEKS, Moodle, and to your LBCC email account. You are required to use your LBCC provided email account for all email communications at the College. You may access your LBCC student email account through Student Email.

# **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. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, copying another student's work; giving another student your work to copy; telling other students what problems are on an exam; getting answers or test questions from another student; or using any unauthorized resource during an exam, such as a phone, another computer or tablet, a book, notes, or a person.

# **Special Circumstances**

LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. If you have approved accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR) and would like to use your accommodations in this class, please contact your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you believe you may need accommodations but are not yet registered with the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR), please visit the <a href="CFAR">CFAR</a>
<a href="Website">Website</a> for steps on how to apply for services or call (541) 917-4789. Online or virtual course accommodations may be different than those for on-campus courses, so it is important that you contact CFAR as soon as possible.

# **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 <u>Board Policies and Administrative Rules</u>. 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

As this is a VIRTUAL class, the information below is NOT applicable to our class, since we are not meeting in person. However, it's relevant and important information to know

for those of you who will be on campus, or plan to be sometime during the term to studying, etc.

#### CLASSROOM REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL STUDENTS AND FACULTY DUE TO COVID-19

Linn-Benton Community College has established rules and policies to make the return to the classroom as safe as possible. It is required for everyone to follow all of the campus rules and policies. To participate in this class, LBCCrequires all students to comply with the following:

### MASKS REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES IN CLASSROOM

- Wear a mask or face covering indoors at all times. Your mask or face covering must be properly worn (fully covering nose and mouth and tight-fitting). Mesh masks, face shields, or face covering that incorporates a valve designed to facilitate easy exhalation are not acceptable. If you have a medical condition or a disability that prevents you from wearing a mask or cloth face covering, you must obtain an accommodation from CFAR (Center for Accessibility Resources) to be exempt from this requirement.
- State guidelines do not limit class size. Physical distancing accommodations can be made upon request and cleaning supplies are also available for personal use.

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