



# MTH 95 - Intermediate Algebra

## w/ Andrew Vosgien

*Spring Term 2019*

CRN: 40099

MTWF 12:00pm – 12:50pm in WOH 128

Class Code: 82

### Instructor: Andrew Vosgien

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Office: WOH 103

Office Hours: Tuesdays 11:00am – 12:00pm

### MTH 095 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 075). 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 075 or Placement into the course.

### 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*)  
Minimum specifications for ALEKS software: [https://www.aleks.com/support/system\\_requirements](https://www.aleks.com/support/system_requirements)
- ALEKS access code for 11 weeks. (*If a 52-week code was previously purchased, that may be continued.*)
- Course Materials Packet

### Recommended Materials:

- Non-Graphing Scientific Calculator for classwork and testing (Mid-Term/Final)
- Three Ring Binder for your course packet, ALEKS notes, and class notes.

# Grading

Category	Percent of Grade
Weekly Participation x9	5%
Weekly ALEKS Homework Objectives x10	20%
Weekly Concept Checks x8	15%
ALEKS Skills Test 1 (Computer)	5%
Mid-term Exam (Paper)	15%
ALEKS Skills Test 2 (Computer)	15%
Comprehensive Final Exam (Paper)	20%
ALEKS "Whole Pie"	5%

Grading Scale
A: 90 -100%
B: 80 – 89%
C: 70 - 79%
D: 60 - 69%
F: 0 - 59%

Students may view their grades on the ALEKS website.

## Weekly Participation:

Students will be actively participating in learning activities and group work every class meeting. These are the lessons for this course. The activities 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 the groups will be a major component in determining the student's success in this course. **Attendance and participation is therefore required.** At the end of the week each student will receive a score based on their attendance and participation for that week. The lowest weekly participation score for each student will be dropped at the end of the term.

## Weekly ALEKS Homework:

The homework for this class will be done using an adaptive online homework system called ALEKS ([www.aleks.com](http://www.aleks.com)). Students will need to purchase an access code to get logged in. Every week, ALEKS will present students with varying number of specific goal topics in which they will improve their algebra skills. These goal topics are chosen to complement the more conceptual work done in class. In addition to the goal topics, ALEKS may also require students to complete relevant prerequisite topics based upon individual need. A student's progress toward completing the weekly goal topics at the time of the deadline will be recorded as a homework grade for that week.

Those who finish their ALEKS work before the deadline can work on other topics in the course pie. Students will also receive a score your total progress through the ALEKS topics at the end of the term. Therefore, highly recommended that students to go back and complete any topics they may have missed or been reassigned regardless if objective is past.

## ALEKS Homework Guidelines:

It is highly encouraged that students maintain a notebook of loose leaf paper for their ALEKS homework. Students should work through each problem and then write up neat, readable solutions being sure to include the original problem (unless it's a lengthy word problem). This will provide students will an extremely valuable study reference before testing.

Many topics in ALEKS need to be completed by the students without the use of a calculator. Since in a testing situation they will only be allowed to use the ALEKS provided calculator, it is recommended that when students are completing their homework, they should only use a calculator on the problems that ALEKS offers one.

## Weekly Concept Checks:

At the beginning of each week there will be a short "Concept Check" assignment. These Concept Checks will consist of a couple conceptual questions and a single algebra question. The conceptual questions will be based on the topics and concepts from the previous week, therefore, students will be allowed to use any of their class notes or completed activities as a resource to answer these questions. The algebra question will be similar to questions from the previous week's ALEKS objectives. Students will need to correctly answer the algebra question, clearly showing all work, steps, and processes. Concept Checks cannot be made up if missed, however, the lowest Concept Check score will be dropped at the end of the term for each student.

## ALEKS Skills Tests:

The ALEKS Skills Tests will be taken at the Student Assessment Testing Center (RCH-111). Students will need a signed test ticket and will have a few days to take the test outside of the regularly scheduled class time. These tests are taken in ALEKS on the Testing Center computers and they are not timed. The only calculator you will be allowed is the calculator that ALEKS provides for you on specific problems. There are no retests allowed.

## Mid-Term Exam:

The Midterm Exam will be a paper/pencil test and will be given in class. It will have a time limit of 50 minutes. Students may use a non-graphing, scientific calculator. A non-zero Mid-Term Exam grade may be replaced by the Final Exam score, up to a maximum of 75%. There are no retests allowed.

## Comprehensive Final Exam:

The Comprehensive Final Exam is a paper/pencil test given during finals week. The date and time of the Comprehensive Final Exam will not change: **Monday, June 10th at 1:00pm in WOH 128**. Students will have 1 hour and 50 minutes to complete the exam. A non-graphing, scientific calculator may be used. A student's grade on the Final Exam may replace a non-zero Mid-Term score, up to 75%. There are no retests allowed.

## Late Work/Tests

If a student is absent, late, or leaves early, they cannot make up any missed Weekly Participation points. However, each student's lowest Weekly Participation score will be dropped at the end of the term.

If students have a legitimate reason why they have been unable to invest the proper amount of time on their Weekly ALEKS Objectives, extensions may be issued on a case by case basis. Putting off the ALEKS homework until the day of the deadline, then running out of time is not a legitimate reason for an extension.

Students cannot make up a missed weekly Concept Check assignment. However, the lowest Weekly Concept Check score at the end of the term will be dropped for each student.

Late tests (ALEKS or Mid-Term) will be allowed for a limited amount of time. Any scores on these late tests will be capped at 80%. If a significant time period has passed since a test's deadline, a late test may not be allowed.

## Learning Center / Math Café

The Learning Center, WH226, is an excellent place to study and to get help with your homework. (Please remember to log on and log off the computer with each visit to the Learning Center.) The other LBCC campuses have similar facilities with Math Help available. The Albany Campus has The Math Café in WH-208, which is connected to the Learning Center.

- There is free wireless available in the Math Café and Learning Center (with lots of places to plug in so your battery won't be depleted.)
- The relaxed atmosphere and table arrangement in the Math Café and Learning Center provide great locations for study groups to meet and work.
- Instructional assistants are available in the Math Café to answer your math, ALEKS and study skills questions for Math 50, 75, 95 and 98.
- The Learning Center offers some free individual and small group tutoring in addition to the help desk.

## Expectations:

- **Be Self Motivated!** – The biggest factor in your success is you! Work hard, don't give up, and take the initiative to seek me out if you have questions or to get help when you need it!
- **Be Involved!** – This includes coming to every class, asking questions, and participating in discussions and group work. You will only get out of this class what you're willing to put into it.
- **Take the Activities Seriously!** – This course doesn't have a traditional textbook. The activities themselves will act as your resource. Make sure to thoroughly answer all the questions in the activities with enough detail that it will be useful later.
- **Come to Every Class Prepared!** – This includes your text, calculator, note taking materials, and your charged laptop/tablet. Forgetting something at home or in your car doesn't excuse you from participation or entitle you to an extension.
- **Use the Learning Center!** – Whether it's for understanding of concepts from the activities or skills in ALEKS, there is staff in the Learning Center just waiting to help you be successful!
- **Manage Your Time Wisely!** – Expect to spend at least eight hours a week working on your ALEKS homework outside of class. This is best done by working on your ALEKS throughout the week rather than waiting until the weekend.
- **Be Respectful to Others!** – I expect your words and behavior to be respectful to all. In that mindset, please refrain from any activities that might be a distraction to those around you, including the use of electronic devices.

## 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. 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.

## Special Circumstances:

Students who have any emergency medical information the instructor should know of, who need special arrangements in the event of evacuation, or students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations, should **make an appointment with the instructor as early as possible, no later than the first week of the term.**

## Request for Special Needs or Accommodations

Direct questions about or requests for special needs or accommodations to the LBCC Disability Coordinator, RCH-105, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany, Oregon 97321, Phone 541-917-4789 or via Oregon Telecommunications Relay TTD at 1-800-735-2900 or 1-800-735-1232. Make sign language interpreting or real-time transcribing requests 2-4 weeks in advance. Make all other requests at least 72 hours prior to the event. LBCC will make every effort to honor requests. LBCC is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

## 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](http://linnbenton-advocate.symplicity.com/public_report)