

South Texas College
Division of Developmental Studies
Department of Mathematics
Math 0090: Intermediate Algebra Syllabus

** Webpage: <http://www.southtexascollege.edu/dev-math/eflores>

Instructor Information

Instructor: E. Flores
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Course Information

Course Name: Intermediate Algebra
Course #/Section: Math 0090 Section #: _____ Term: _____
Classroom Location: Building: _____ Room #: _____ Campus: _____
Class Days/Times: _____

1. Catalog Course Description: This course is a study of intermediate algebra and geometry. Topics include factorization of polynomials, operations on rational expressions, solving rational equations, radical expressions, rational exponents, quadratic equations and inequalities and their graphs, application problems involving quadratic models, functional notation, and application problems on geometry. The focus of lab instruction is content reinforcement.

2. Course Goals:

- Help students become TSI complete and/or College Ready.
- Prepare students for College Mathematics/College Algebra.

3. Course Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion, the student will be able to:

- Apply basic algebraic operations to rational algebraic expressions consisting of polynomials or complex fractions, and transform these algebraic expression into equivalent algebraic expressions;
- Factor a polynomial expression using a variety of methods;
- Solve linear, polynomial, and rational equations using appropriate solution techniques, including the Zero Product Property, completing the square, and the use of the quadratic formula;
- Solve application problems involving polynomial equations and equations involving rational expressions;
- Solve simple and compound inequalities, and application problems involving inequalities; and
- Apply the laws of radicals to perform addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of expressions involving radicals and to solve simple equations containing one or two radical.

4. Departmental Policies:

- Prerequisite: Math 0085 with a “C” or better or placement based on assessment scores.

Course	THEA	EA ACCUPLACER	ASSET	COMPASS
MATH 0090 Intermediate Algebra	210 - 229	50 – 62 & 65+ on AR ACCUPLACER	38 - 40	39 – 41

- Attendance is required. According to STC policy, a student who does not meet the College Readiness Standard for Texas Success Initiatives (TSI) must attend a developmental class in order to earn credit in any academic course(s) in which s/he may be enrolled. **Any student who accumulates the equivalent of four (4) hours of absences, excused or unexcused, in a developmental class will be referred to a Student Success Specialist. Any student who accumulates the equivalent of eight (8) hours of absences, excused or unexcused, may be withdrawn from the course by the instructor. A student may also be withdrawn from the course for non-participation in the class. Note:** Any student who is taking Math 90 as his/her only developmental course, and is withdrawn from the course, will be withdrawn from all college courses.
- Three (3) tardy will be counted as 1 absence. A tardy is defined as entering class after the starting time OR leaving class early. **Time lost from a quiz or a test due to tardiness will not be made up.**
- The last day to withdraw with a “W” is Tuesday, April 17th. A student who has not withdrawn by the above date and has stopped attending class will receive an “F” for the course.
- If you are repeating this course, please make an appointment with your instructor.
- Instructors and students will communicate via e-mail at least once during the semester.
- Math 90 students will take the Accuplacer toward the end of the semester free of charge.

5. “P” Grade Policy

Students who pass the math section of the THEA (230 or higher) or ACCUPLACER (EA 63 or higher) **during** the term qualify for a grade of “P” in this course. A grade of "P" will count as a successful completion of the course, but it will not be included in calculating the Current Semester GPA. Students are encouraged to complete the course to be better prepared for college-level math courses. **Note: It is important that you provide your instructor with a “P” Grade form signed by a Student Success Specialist before you can be assigned a grade of “P”.**

6. Technology:

Hawkes Learning Systems is a required technology-based interactive software that allows students to access practice problems, supplemental instructional material such as videos and/or tutorials, and online assignments with immediate feedback. Students may access Hawkes Learning Systems at any STC computer lab for text-specific instructional, study, and practice materials.

7. Grading Criteria:

- Homework/Quizzes/Projects/Tests (as determined by instructor) 75%
- Departmental Comprehensive Final Exam (**Mandatory**) 25%
- Course grade is determined as follows:
 - A 90% - 100%
 - B 80% - 89%
 - C 70% - 79%
 - D 60% - 69%
 - F below 60%

8. Evaluation Methods:

See individual instructor's Syllabus Addendum for additional information regarding grading policy and feedback expectations for assignments, quizzes, and/or exams.

9. Textbook & Resources:

Required for all Developmental Math Courses:

1. Text: D. Franklin Wright. Prealgebra and Introductory Algebra
2. Software: Hawkes Learning Systems
3. USB Flash drive
4. Scantron Form No. 882-E

Recommended:

1. Any standard 4-function calculator.
2. A binder/notebook/folder.

Note: The required items may be purchased on campus or at most area bookstores. This is a **one-time purchase** for the entire developmental math sequence. The Hawkes Learning Systems software account does not expire.

Secretaries Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) Information:

Departmental Foundation Skills:

A. Basic Skills

Reading: Read, understand and interpret written mathematical information.

Writing: Write a report on a topic related to mathematics.

Arithmetic and Mathematical Operations: Use arithmetic in computations and solving problems involving real-life situations.

Speaking: Participate in class discussions, solve problems and explain the solution process to the teacher and the peers.

B. Thinking Skills:

Creative Thinking: Demonstrate creative thinking by solving problems.

Decision Making: Decide which method to use to solve a particular equation given a set of different methods from which to choose.

Problem Solving: Generate a plan to solve application problems; set pieces of information into an equation. Apply previously learned skills and newly learned skills to solve new problems.

Visualize: Organize and process symbols, pictures and graphs to solve mathematical problems.

Reasoning: Recognize if the solution to a problem is reasonable or not.

C. Personal Qualities:

Responsibility: Students will exert a high level of effort.

Self-Esteem: Students will maintain a positive view of themselves.

Sociability: Students will work in groups.

Self-Management: Students will assess themselves.

Integrity and Honesty: Students will be honest and trustworthy.

Developmental Studies Policy Statement:

- Failure to remain in at least one Developmental Studies course for students who have not met the passing standard on an approved assessment instrument in reading, writing, and/or mathematics may result in the student's withdrawal from ALL college courses.
- All developmental courses including the College Success course will be included in the Semester Grade Point Average (GPA) for all students at STC.
- Students in Developmental Studies will be limited to a maximum of 13 credit hours of course work per semester and 7 credit hours per summer session.
- Students taking 12 or more credit hours per semester who have not met the passing standard on an approved assessment instrument will be required to take two or more developmental courses every semester if they are deficient in more than one academic skill (reading, writing, and mathematics).

Student Code of Conduct

All students are expected to behave in a manner consistent with the College’s function as an educational institution. As stated in the student catalog, any student that engages in disruptive activities which interfere with classroom instruction will be warned on the first occurrence, and may be withdrawn if the disruptive activities continue.

ADA Students with Disabilities Statement:

Reasonable accommodations may be made that allow disabled students to be successful at STC. Accommodations may be provided for those students who submit the appropriate documentation by an outside/independent professional evaluator or agency. Students may volunteer to inform the Instructor about their disability and associated classroom limitations, if applicable.

Each campus has a Counseling/Disability Support Office contact person and a student can contact them at the following phone numbers.

- Pecan Campus (McAllen) (956) 872-2513*
- Mid-Valley Campus (Weslaco) (956) 872-6618*
- Starr County Campus (Rio Grande City) (956) 488-5804*
- Nursing Allied Health Center (McAllen) (956) 683-3137*
- Technology Center (McAllen)(956) 992-6125*