Instructor: Karl Thomsen
e-mail: kathomse@nmu.edu


**Additional supplies:** Scientific calculator (fraction key useful); additional graphing calculator will be useful, but you MUST have access to a calculator without algebraic technology. Notebook for class notes & homework: loose-leaf notebook and a 3-ring bound recommended.

**Attendance:** Daily attendance is expected and will be recorded. You should enroll in and pay for this course only if you have the time to devote to each class meeting and to complete all assignments. You will not learn algebra by observation.

**Assignments:** PLAN TO SPEND AN AVERAGE OF 1-2 HOURS ON EACH ASSIGNMENT. If your schedule will not permit this much homework time, I recommend that you give serious consideration to withdrawing from the course.

Reading and problems will be assigned each day. In addition, you should take notes, including examples used, covering material presented in class. In doing homework, SHOW YOUR WORK for each problem assigned when possible. Make corrections as we discuss the problems.

**Tests & Quizzes (70%)**:
- Announced quizzes will be worth **50** points.
- No make-up quizzes will be given without prior arrangement.
- For a student with fewer than 2 unexcused absences, the lowest quiz score will be dropped if doing so would improve the student's average.
- Each test will be worth **100** points. Tests will cover assigned reading, material presented in class, and concepts covered in homework. No test scores will be dropped.
- You must take tests and quizzes at their scheduled times unless notifying me prior to the test/quiz. I do have final say on whether or not your absence is a valid reason.
- Make-up tests/quizzes must be made up within one week’s time. If they are not they automatically become a zero.
- Only students who have taken all tests will be admitted to the final exam. Thus, missing a test guarantees earning a failing course grade except in extremely unusual circumstances.
- The final exam will be comprehensive.

**Homework (10%)**
- Homework Checks will be given throughout the semester, beginning at 5:30. A homework check will be how you are graded in the homework category. I will choose random problems from homework assignments that have been completed. You will be expected to copy the work from your homework assignment onto the homework check for each of those problems. Please understand, you this is not the time to actually do the problem. Books are closed for these homework checks. You are just rewriting what you have.

**Grades:**
- To pass this course you must take all tests. Your course grade will be based on your homework, quiz, test, and final exam scores.
  - Homework = 10% of overall grade
  - Tests/Quizzes = 70% of overall grade
  - Final Exam = 20% of overall grade
- Grading Scale

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>100-93</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>92-90</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
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<td>D-</td>
<td>62-60</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>Below 60</td>
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- A grade of AT LEAST C– is required for registration in MA100

**Math Tutoring Room:** Extra help is available for free. Tutors are available Monday-Friday 9 am- 4 pm to help with questions in West Science Room 3810. Study groups with classmates are encouraged.

**Teaching Assistant (TA):** Travis Wheeler (trwheele@nmu.edu)

**Audits:** A student who audits this course must attend class regularly. An auditing student does not need to take the exams but must turn in all homework and quizzes. A student cannot change this course to an audit if a homework or a quiz is missing.

**Disability needs:** If you have a need for disability-related accommodations or services, please inform the Coordinator of Disability Services in the Dean of Students Office at 2001 C. B. Hedgcock Building (227-1700). Reasonable and effective accommodations and services will be provided to students if requests are made in a timely manner, with appropriate documentation, in accordance with federal, state, and University guidelines.

**Big Tips:**

- Always come to class.
- Don’t be late.
- If you do miss a class, you are responsible for all materials.
- Tape recording of class sessions is permitted; study groups are recommended.
- Room 226 at Marquette Senior High School at 2:30. If you plan on stopping by the high school please e-mail me to let me know you are coming. Some days I have meetings and can’t be there.
- Feel free to e-mail questions that arise as you’re doing your homework. I would ask you to e-mail me these questions at my NMU address.
- Use Youtube or Khan Academy clips to help guide you through your homework.

**Class Etiquette:** Students who participate in this class in an adequate fashion have good attendance and are in the classroom at the start of the class. They stay until the end of class. They have a good record of turning in homework. They do not disturb those around them (whispering, leaving to get food, eating during class, etc). Those students that participate in a substantial fashion are attentive and discuss ideas in a reasonable and polite fashion. Please turn off all beeping devices (cell phones, watches) before the start of each class. Absolutely no cell phones or headphones are allowed in class during tests, quizzes or lectures. **If I see or hear your cell phone you will be asked to leave class for the day.**
DEVELOPMENTAL MATHEMATICS LAB SESSION/TUTORING POLICY:

Students are required to meet with a Teaching Assistant (TA) for one hour per week any time in which the student’s grade on a test is below 70%. Students must continue to do this until they achieve at least 70% on a subsequent test. It is the student’s responsibility to learn if he or she is required to continue attending after the next test is taken. Students should ask the instructor if they are uncertain. Do not make any assumptions about your attendance status. All students, even if they score at least 70% on a test, are welcome to work with the tutors and TAs. Students will be asked to initial a sign-in sheet to indicate their presence. A student who misses a session or arrives more than 10 minutes late will be marked absent. No more than four (4) unexcused absences from the required lab session or meeting with the TA will be permitted. Students who exceed the number of unexcused absences will be required to meet with the instructor to discuss their commitment to the course. The instructor reserves the right to reduce a student’s grade due to an excessive number of absences or to give the student a failing grade in the course. Students may also choose to withdraw from the course prior to the University's class withdrawal deadline.

Student Learning Outcomes for Beginning Algebra:

**INTEGERS AND RATIONAL NUMBERS**

- Use order of operations to simplify and perform operations on algebraic expressions
- Evaluate algebraic expressions

**LINEAR EQUATIONS AND INEQUALITIES**

- Solve linear equations in one variable
- Graph and interpret linear equations
- Determine equations of lines
- Solve and graph linear inequalities in one variable
- Graph linear inequalities in two variables

**EXPONENTS AND RADICALS**

- Apply exponent rules to algebraic expressions
- Convert between radical and exponential notation
- Simplify radical numbers

**APPLICATIONS**

- Solve applied problems from all areas. To include but not limited to: Pythagorean Theorem, basic geometry, direct and inverse variation.

**FACTORIZING**

- Factor polynomials by factoring out the GCF
- Use grouping to factor polynomials
- Factor difference of two squares
- Factor perfect square trinomials
- Factor quadratics with leading coefficient 1
MA 100 Tutoring Policy

DEVELOPMENTAL MATHEMATICS LAB SESSION/TUTORING POLICY:
Students are required to attend the lab session and/or meet with the Teaching Assistant (TA) during their office hours at any time in which the student’s grade is below 70%. Students must continue to attend lab sessions and/or meet with the TA until they achieve at least 70% in the class. It is the student’s responsibility to learn if he or she is required to continue attending after the next test is taken. Students should ask the instructor if they are uncertain. Do not make any assumptions about your attendance status. All students, even if they are above a 70%, are welcome to attend the lab sessions and are encouraged to meet with the TA during their scheduled office hours.

Students who are required to attend the lab session and/or meet with the TA will be asked to initial a sign-in sheet to indicate their presence. A student who misses a session or arrives more than 10 minutes late will be marked absent. No more than four (4) unexcused absences from the required lab session or meeting with the TA will be permitted. Students who exceed the number of unexcused absences will be required to meet with the instructor to discuss their commitment to the course. The instructor reserves the right to reduce a student's grade due to an excessive number of absences or to give the student a failing grade in the course. Students may also choose to withdraw from the course prior to the University's class withdrawal deadline.