Winter 2016 **MA090 BEGINNING ALGEBRA** (10327) 9 am MTWRF West 3801
(10326) 1 pm MTWRF Jamr 2319

Instructor: (Ms.) Rosanne Parks
Office: Jamr 2213 Jamrich Hall   Office Hours:
Office phone: 227-1479   10 – 11 MTWR
e-mail: rparks@nmu.edu   (Other times by appointment)

Prerequisite: AT LEAST a **B−** in OC 080 or a satisfactory score on the Math Placement Exam.

Required Materials:
   (1) Text: *Beginning & Intermediate Algebra* (Fourth Edition) by Miller, O'Neill, and Hyde
   (2) NMU e-mail account which you check regularly
   (3) Loose leaf notebook (**large rings**) for class notes & assignments, tests & quizzes
   (4) Pencil and eraser: **REQUIRED** for all tests, quizzes, and submitted homework; graph paper, ruler or straight edge
   (5) Scientific calculator (fraction key useful) that is without algebraic technology. **A cell phone calculator is not acceptable**.

   Note: Laptops will not be used in this class**.**

Additional Expectations:
   • arrive for every class with necessary tools: text, notebook, pencil, and calculator
   • keep cell phones and other electronic devices out of sight and on silent (Please speak to the instructor if you anticipate receiving an emergency call during class.)
   • be attentive and actively participate in class

Student Learning Outcomes for Beginning Algebra:

After successful completion of MA090 students will be able to:

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

FACTORING
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

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

Learning outcomes will be assessed using quizzes, tests, and the final exam.

ATTENDANCE:
Daily attendance is expected and will be recorded. Absence from class, for whatever reason, does not excuse a student from any class work or assignments missed. The student must assume full responsibility for making arrangements for any assignments missed due to the absence. Texting in class may, at the discretion of the instructor, result in a student being marked absent for the class. Friday of most weeks will be devoted to testing or to Quiz/Lab Sessions with the Teaching Assistant.

DEVELOPMENTAL MATHEMATICS LAB SESSION/TUTORING POLICY:
Students are required to meet with the Teaching Assistant (TA) and/or Instructor during their office hours at any time in which the student's grade on a test is below 60%. Meeting with the TA or Instructor is optional, though strongly recommended, for test grades in the 60 – 69% range. Students must continue to meet with the TA until they achieve at least 70% on a subsequent test. All students are required to keep a tutoring log in their portfolio.

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 seriously consider dropping the course.

Reading and problems will be assigned each day. In addition, you should take notes, including examples used, covering the material presented in class. Each homework assignment (and each section within a homework assignment) should start on a clean sheet of paper and start with a **heading** which includes your name, the date assigned, section and page numbers, and problem numbers assigned. In doing homework, copy the problem and SHOW YOUR WORK for each problem assigned. **Make corrections** as we discuss the problems. SUGGESTION: Do not erase your original work. Do your corrections in red ink. Assignments will be checked in frequently. At times, you may be asked to submit (for a grade) selected problems from a completed homework assignment. These problems are to be copied from your portfolio without using your textbook. Several homework assignments (with varying point values) may be collected and graded throughout the semester. Late assignments will not be accepted!

Portfolios will be collected and graded on test days. Each portfolio check is worth 20 points. Refer to the handout concerning portfolio requirements.

Remember: **MATHEMATICS IS LEARNED BY DOING, NOT BY OBSERVING!**

TESTS & QUIZZES:

All quizzes and tests must be written in pencil. Quizzes will be given often and will be worth 10 – 25 pts each. (There usually will be at least one 25 point quiz each week.) Some may not be announced. At least one question per quiz **may** be taken from the **homework section** of your portfolio. **You may not use your textbook for these questions.** No make-up quizzes will be given without PRIOR ARRANGEMENT. For a student with fewer than five absences, the lowest 25-point quiz score will be dropped if doing so would improve the student's average. There will be 5-6 tests, each worth 100 points. Tests will cover assigned reading, concepts presented in class, notes, and assigned homework. **NO TEST SCORES WILL BE DROPPED.** You must take tests and quizzes at their scheduled times. No make-up is possible for any test unless you notify me **before** test time. A documented excuse may be requested in order to take a make-up test. Grades on quizzes and tests are not "curved." Only students who have taken all chapter tests will be admitted to the final exam. Thus, missing a test guarantees earning a failing course grade except in extremely unusual circumstances. The *comprehensive* final exam will be worth 200 – 250 points

GRADES:

To pass this course you must take all tests. Your course grade will be based on total points earned on your quizzes, tests, assignments, math portfolio, final exam, bonus points, and attendance. Accumulating more than 4 unexcused absences may result in a lowering of your final grade.

The grading scale is: A: 90-100%; B: 80-89%; C: 70-79%; D: 60-69%; F: < 60%.

(**NOTE:** A grade of AT **LEAST C−** in MA090 is required for registration in MA100.)

EXTRA HELP: My Office: during regular office hours or by appointment
Office Hours and Lab Sessions (as announced) with the Teaching Assistants
Math Study Lab: West Science (WS) 3810: 227-1612
All-Campus Tutorial Service:

Study groups are recommended.

DISABILITY SERVICES: 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 or disserv@nmu.edu). 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.