MATHEMATICS R3-03 – ALGEBRA

1. Basics

Location: MW: F216, TR: TBA
Time: MTWR 11:30-12:30
Text: Algebra for Math R3 (Second Edition), Author: Majewicz.
CUNY-First Course Number: 16362
Instructor: Alfred Dolich.
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Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday,Thursday 10:20-11:20
Web Page: www.dolich.com

2. Course Description

This is a basic algebra course designed to provide students the basic mathematical background to continue in further mathematics or science courses requiring mathematical background. Topics to be covered include: Algebraic notation, number types, real numbers, linear inequalities, constants and variables, exponents, polynomials, rational expressions, and radicals. A detailed list of the sections of the book and topics to be covered are included at the end of the syllabus.

3. Assessment and Course Structure:

The course will have four midterms and a final exam. The approximate dates of the midterms are included in the course schedule included in this syllabus. The final exam will be given at the date and time determined by the college. There will also be frequently assigned in-class assignments. I also intend to assign homework on a daily basis. As I intend to assign homework problems from the textbook it is necessary that all students have access to a textbook. Note that the tests and final exam do not allow the use of a calculator. I will generally post all announcements made in class (including homework assignments and this syllabus) on the class webpage maintained at my personal site: www.dolich.com. I will be computing final grades according to the following scheme:

Four Midterms Exams 15 % each, Homework 20 %, Final Exam 20 %

Grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

90-100% A, 80-89% B, 70-79% C, 60-69% D, 0-59% E

Important Note: Students can not pass Math R3 unless they pass the departmental final exam.

4. Homework Policy

I intend to assign a short homework assignment every day to be collected the next day. We will typically begin class by going over the previous night's homework, and I expect students to be able to work homework problems at the board. Failure to complete at least half of all homework assignments will lead to a student's final grade being lowered by two full grades (i.e. were a student earning a B at the end of the semester but they had completed less than half of the homework assignments, they receive a D). A student who fails to hand in more than 75% of the homework automatically fails the course. Also I plan on dropping at least one, maybe two, of the lowest homework grades for the semester (this depends upon how many homework assignments I end up collecting). Also **I ACCEPT NO LATE HOMEWORK**

5. Test Policies

I **DO NOT** plan on dropping any test scores. There are no makeup tests. A student who misses a test with a written university acceptable excuse (for example a note from your mom does not count) will have the rest of the tests re-weighted in assigning the final grade. For example a student who misses one test with a legitimate excuse will have the three remaining test count 20% each in the final grade, rather than the typical 15 %. A student who misses a test without a written university acceptable excuse receives a 0.

6. Passing the Course

Please note that in order to pass Math R3 a student must pass **BOTH** the in-class portion of the course and the final exam. This means that if a student whose grade including all in-class tests, the homework, and the final exam does not have a passing grade will fail the course. But, also if a student does not pass the final exam, whether or not he or she has a passing overall average, the student will stiill fail the course.

7. Attendance Policy

I will take attendance before every class. A student with more than fsix unexcused absences will automatically have his or her grade lowered by a full letter grade. Further absences will have even more drastic effects on a students grades, I will warn any student prior to this situation arising. Being more than ten minutes late or leaving early without an excuse also qualifies as an absence.

8. Other Policies

- I **DO NOT** intend to drop any of the tests.
- I will maintain a course web-page at www.dolich.com where I will post any and all relevant announcements from class.
- Attendance: All students are expected to attend class.
- There will be **NO** extra credit given in the class, don't ask.
- **NO** later homework will be accepted whatsoever, I will drop the lowest one or two homework assignments from the final grade calculation.
- Please make sure any cell phones are off during class, wearing headphones of any kind is not permitted in class, if you choose to do so you will be asked to leave and this will count as an unexcused absence.
- All information in the syllabus is subject to change as circumstances warrant. This syllabus does not constitute a contract.
- As your first homework assignment you are required to read, sign, and return this syllabus to me by the end of the week.

9. Course Schedule

Day	Section	Topic
1-4	1.1-1.4	Real numbers and operations with real numbers.
5-8	1.5-.18	The number line, absolute value, algebra, **Test #1**
9-12	2.1-2.2	Integer exponents and their properties
13-16	2.2-2.3	Integer exponents cont'd, scientific notation
17-20	3.1-3.3	Polynomials and basic polynomial arithmetic
21-24	3.4-3.5	Polynomial division and factoring **Test #2**
25-28	4.1-4.2	Rational expressions and multiplying/dividing rational expressions
29-32	4.3-4.4	Adding/subtracting rational expressions, mixed quotients
33-36	5.1	Square roots
37-40	5.2-5.3	Cube roots, radicals, **Test #3**
41-44	6.1	Rational exponents
45-58	6.2	Rational exponents cont'd, **Test #4**, Final exam review

10. Student Signature

I have read and understand this syllabus.

Print Name: Signature: