MA090
Intermediate Algebra
Prof. Vance Gaffar & Dr. Dylan Beck & Dr. William Duncan
Baker University Fall 2022

Contents

1 Preliminary Details

1.1 Course Information

Course Number: MA090
Course Name: Intermediate Algebra
Start/End Date: 8/17/2022 - 10/2/2022
Location:

- Sections A, B, and C: Mulvane 401

- Section D: Collins Library 107

Time:

- Section A: MWF, 10:30 AM - 11:20 AM

- Section B: MWF, 11:30 AM - 12:20 PM

- Section C: MWF, 12:30 PM - 1:20 PM

- Section D: MWF, 2:30 PM - 3:20 PM

Final Exam Times:

- Section A: Dec. 8 1:00 - 4:00 PM

- Section B: Dec. 6 8:30 - 11:30 AM

- Section C: Dec. 5 11:30 - 2:30 PM

- Section D: Dec. 7 1:00 - 4:00 PM

1.2 Instructor Information

Sections A & B
Professor: Mr. Vance Gaffar
Office: Mulvane 327
Office Hours:
Email: vance.gaffar@bakeru.edu

Section C
Professor: Dr. Dylan Beck
Office: Mulvane 328
Office Hours: MWF, 3:30 - 4:20 PM & Tu, 12:30 PM - 3:20 PM
Email: dylan.beck@bakeru.edu

Section D
Professor: Dr. William Duncan
Office: Mulvane 329
Office Hours: MW 9:30 - 10:20 AM & MW 1:30 - 3:20 PM
Email: william.duncan@bakeru.edu

2   Course Objectives and Textbook

2.1   Course Objectives

Course Description: This course is an introduction to algebra, including polynomials, algebraic fractions, first-degree and second-degree equations and inequalities, exponents, radicals, graphing, relations, functions, and systems of linear equations. Students with an ACT Math score of less than 22 will be required to pass this course with a C or higher. (This course counts toward the determination of full-time student status, but does not count toward the minimum credit hours needed for graduation under this catalog.) **P/NC**

2.2   Technology

You will be using the software program ALEKS.

2.3   Textbook

Elementary and Intermediate Algebra, Fifth Edition, by Baratto and Bergmen, McGraw Hill. This will be available online through moodle/ALEKS. You will not need to buy it.

2.4   Academic Support

Academic Support: Academic support is available to students through the Student Academic Success (SAS) department. SAS provides the math center which coordinates hours from a variety of qualified faculty and students to make support available to MA090 students during the semester.

- Math Center: you will be required to attend one regularly-scheduled math center hour each week outside of class time.

3   Assignments

Attendance: 70 points (5 points each week). Lecture attendance is required. If you do not attend, you lose a fraction of the points that week. You will also need to attend 1 math center hour outside of your scheduled class time.

Phone Policy: 40 points (1 point for each day of class). During week 1, turning in your phone at the beginning of class is mandatory. For each class period thereafter, you may turn your phone in at the front of the classroom at the beginning of class to receive 1 point of credit for that class period.

ALEKS Intermediate Modules: 280 points. Your ALEKS work is broken down into 14 Intermediate Modules, each with a stated due date. The percentage of the topics mastered by 11:59 pm on the due date will determine part of your grade on that ALEKS Module. On the due date the amount awarded will be 10 * (percent of module completed). (The full 10 points will be awarded if the Module is completed on time.) Another 10 points will be awarded when the Module is completed.
For example: Module 6 – Chapter 3 has 38 topics and is due Sept. 18.

- If all 38 topics are completed by Sept. 18, then the points awarded would be 10 + 10 = 20.

- If 32 are completed by Sept. 18 and the entire module is completed on Sept. 21, the points awarded would be 10 * (32/38) + 10 = 18.42.

- If 15 topics are completed by Sept. 18 and at the end of the semester (Dec. 2) only 29 topics are complete, then the points awarded will be 10 * (15/38) + 10 * (29/38) = 11.58.

Each successive Module is available after completion of the preceding Module.

Time Spent on ALEKS: 130 points. At midnight on Sunday each week, ALEKS will create a report with the time worked that week, the total time in ALEKS and the progress on the Modules. Part of your grade will be determined by the amount of time you have spent on ALEKS. You are expected to spend at least 6 hours each week on ALEKS. (You may need to spend more time to complete the modules, but your grade for "Time spent on ALEKS" will be based on 6 hours per week.) You may choose to work ahead. By spending time in ALEKS you may earn up to 10 points each week.

For example: For Sept. 11 the weekly goal is 6 hours and the Cumulative goal is 18 hours (see schedule).

- A student who worked either 6 hours that week or 18 hours total by Sept. 11 will receive the full 10 points.

- A student who worked only 3 hours that week but worked 18 hours total before Sept. 11 will receive the full 10 points. (So you can work ahead!!!!)

- A student who worked 6 hours that week, but only 15 hours total by Sept. 11 will receive the full 10 points.

- A student who worked 3 hours that week and 15 hours total will receive 10 * Maximum (3/6), (15/18) = 10 * Maximum 0.5, 0.833 = 10 * 0.833 = 8.33 points

ALEKS Comprehensive Assessments: Proctored comprehensive assessments will be given in class several times during the course. Any student who scores at least 90% on one of these assessments (aka has 358 topics in their ALEKS pie after the assessment) will pass the course. During the assessment, you will be using a lockdown browser so that you may not leave the webpage on which the assessment is being administered during the exam. Any student wishing to use their own computer for the assessment will be required to download and install the lockdown browser onto their computer. Since students often need more than 50 minutes to complete the assessment, you will be offered the opportunity to sign up for a time to take the assessment outside of class. The time spent on the assessment does count toward the six hours required for the week. During a comprehensive assessment you can gain or lose topics from you ALEKS pie.

Exam 1: 100 points. The first comprehensive assessment should be completed by Thursday, 9/15. Before this exam, you should have completed 164 topics on Aleks. The number of topics you have in your pie after the exam will determine the grade on the exam. If you have 164 or more topics in your pie at the end of the exam you will receive 100% (100 points for the exam.) If you have 60 topics in your pie at the end of the exam you will receive 37 points (37%) for the exam. If you have 358 or more topics in your pie at the end of the exam, you pass the class.

Exam 2: 100 points. The second comprehensive assessment should be completed by Thursday, 10/13. Before this exam, you should have completed 273 topics on Aleks. The number of topics

you have in your pie after the exam will determine the grade on the exam in the same fashion as described for Exam 1. If you have 358 or more topics in your pie at the end of the exam, you pass the class.

Exam 3: 100 points. The third comprehensive assessment should be completed by Thursday, 11/17. Before this exam, you should have completed 398 topics on Aleks. The number of topics you have in your pie after the exam will determine the grade on the exam in the same fashion as Exams 1 & 2. If you have 358 or more topics in your pie at the end of the exam, you pass the class.

Final Exam: 200 points. The final exam for Section A (10:30 MWF class) is Dec. 8 1:00 PM. The final exam for Section B (11:30 MWF class) is Dec. 6 8:30 AM. The final exam for Section C (11:30 MWF class) is Dec. 5 11:30 AM. The final exam for Section D (2:30 MWF class) is Dec. 7 1:00 PM. This final is worth 200 points. The points you receive will be based on the number of topics in your pie at the end of the exam. For example, if you have 200 topics (out of the 398 total) you will receive (200/398) * 200 = 100.5 points. If that combined with the points already earned total 700 or more, you will pass the class. If you have 358 or more topics in your pie at the end of the exam, you pass the class.

3.1 Grades

Grades on assignments are final. If you feel there has been an error on your grade, you must submit a request to me in writing to re-evaluate your assignment.

3.2 Grading Scale

This is a Pass/No Credit course. You can pass the course in one of two ways:

1. by receiving at least 90% (358 of the 398 topics) on a proctored comprehensive ALEKS assessment. Comprehensive assessments will be given three times during the semester and as your final exam.

2. by receiving 700 points (70%) from the points available.

4 Attendance Policy

Attendance: Attendance is required. If you do not attend class at least once per week, you will lose 20 points for that week.

Class Cancellation: in the case of a cancellation, notification will be sent by email to your university accounts.

Calculator Policy: Basic calculators will be provided for exams. Exams are on ALEKS. No cell phones or other electronic devices will be allowed to be used as a calculator.

Notebook with ALEKS work: Please use a spiral notebook for you work in this class. You may use the notebook when taking the comprehensive exams. Some students choose to keep more than one notebook; one for scratch work and one for more organized notes.

5   Academic Misconduct

The University community traditionally has been a place where all members are free to express and exchange ideas. Such fundamental goals of the University as intellectual growth and development are predicated on honest investigation, straightforward expression of views and opinions, and genuine dialogue. The attainment of these goals requires that all who participate in the exchange of ideas maintain intellectual integrity. Baker University seeks to ensure that both the professor and the student are protected from unfair actions or accusations in cases of cheating and plagiarism. The University encourages faculty and students to adopt a responsible attitude toward one another.

Academic misconduct includes but is not confined to plagiarizing; cheating on assignment and assessments; turning in counterfeit reports, tests, and papers; stealing tests and other academic material; knowingly falsifying academic records or documents; and turning in the same work to more than one class. Students and faculty alike must recognize that none of the procedures set forth in this document operate to the exclusion of civil or criminal litigation. Likewise, no definitions in this document supersede any parties concerned to resolve the contested issues without the necessity for recourse to the law in a manner that protects the rights of the individuals involved.

Consequences of academic misconduct may include, but are not limited to, a failing grade for an assignment, a failing grade for a course, or expulsion from the University. Any form of academic misconduct which results in administrative or academic withdrawal is noted on the student's transcript.

Collaboration Policy: Discussion and the exchange of ideas are essential to academic work. You are encouraged to consult with your classmates on different homework questions but nobody should submit work in ALEKS on your behalf. No collaboration of any kind is allowed during midterm and final exams.

6   Instructor's Expectations

Missed work: Comprehensive assessments on ALEKS that are missed due to illness, family emergency, or university-sponsored event can be made up one week later with no deduction of points. Please alert the instructor well in advance if travel conflicts with class. If you do not provide one of these excuses in advance of the class period, you will not be able to make up a missed exam.

Classroom management: This course is run with expectations of professional conduct. If at any time, the instructor deems that a student is not comporting him or herself in this manner, the student will be asked to leave the class for that day and will be marked absent for the time away from class.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism will result in a "0" for the assignment. All cases of plagiarism are reported to the office of Academic Affairs. Baker University grades plagiarism on a point system based on the severity of the case. As such, the severity of the plagiarism may constitute additional penalties which are more severe than a "0" for the assignment. The severity of the case is assessed at the discretion of the Academic Dean and the University.

Plagiarism includes the use of an electronic program (Computer Algebra System) like Wolfram Alpha or Mathway. Applications like Photomath that solve problems also count as plagiarism.

E-mail: I use the campus e-mail system frequently in order to keep in contact with students in this course. Sometimes important information regarding the class schedule or homework assignments will be transmitted in this manner. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her Baker e-mail account regularly (daily!) in order to keep up to date with this information. I will use the Baker accounts.

7 Credit Hour Definition

Consistent with best practices in higher education, Baker University subscribes to the federal definition of the "credit hour" endorsed by the Higher Learning Commission. Driven by intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement, the "credit hour" is an institutionally-established equivalency that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of classroom (or direct faculty) instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work per week for the duration of the course enrollment period. A 3-credit-hour course, for example, requires approximately 40-45 instruction (or instructional equivalency) hours, roughly 80-90 out-of-class work (self-directed) hours and approximately 120-135 total instructional hours over the course of the semester.

8 ADA Statement

Baker University is committed to providing "reasonable accommodations" in keeping with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disability Act of 1992. Access Services coordinates accommodations and services for all eligible students with disabilities. If you have a disability and wish to request accommodations and have not contacted Access Services, please do so as soon as possible. Access Services is located in the basement of Collins Library. You can contact them at kathy.wilson@bakerU.edu or 785.594.8352. Information about Access Services can also be found online at the Student Academic Success website. If accommodations have been approved by Access Services, please communicate with your instructor regarding your accommodations to coordinate services.

9 Class Schedule

Week	Assignment	Due Date	Points	Total Time
Week 1	Initial Knowledge Check	8/19		
Week 2	Chapter 0 (Part 1 & Part 2)	8/28	40	
	Time - 6 hours	8/28	10	6 hours
Week 3	Chapter 1 (Part 1 & Part 2)	9/4	40	
	Time - 6 hours	9/4	10	12 hours
Week 4	Chapter 2	9/11	20	
	Time - 6 hours	9/11	10	18 hours
NOTE	No Monday Class This Week	Labor Day		
Week 5	Chapter 3	9/18	20	
	Last day to complete Exam 1	9/15	100	
	Time - 6 hours	9/18	10	24 hours
Week 6	Chapter 4	9/25	20	
	Time - 6 hours	9/25	10	30 hours
Week 7	Chapter 5 - Part 1	10/2	20	
	Time - 6 hours	10/2	10	36 hours
Week 8	Chapter 5 - Part 2	10/9	20	
	Time - 6 hours	10/9	10	42 hours
NOTE	No Friday Class This Week	Fall Break		
Week 9	Chapter 6	10/16	20	
	Last day to complete Exam 2	10/13	100	
	Time - 6 hours	10/16	10	48 hours
Week 10	Chapter 7 - Part 1	10/23	20	
	Time - 6 hours	10/23	10	54 hours
Week 11	Chapter 7 - Part 2	10/30	20	
	Time - 6 hours	10/30	10	60 hours
Week 12	Chapter 8	11/6	20	
	Time - 6 hours	11/6	10	66 hours
Week 13	Chapter 9	11/13	20	
	Time - 6 hours	11/13	10	72 hours
Week 14				
	Last day to complete Exam 3	11/17	100	
	Time - 2 hours	11/18	5	74 hours
Week 15				
NOTE	No Wed./Fri. Class This Week	Thanksgiving		
Week 16	REVIEW			
	Time - 2 hours	12/4	5	76 hours
Finals Week			200	
12/5/2022	Section C (12:30 MWF Class)	11:30 AM		
12/6/2022	Section B (11:30 MWF Class)	8:30 AM		
12/7/2022	Section D (2:30 MWF Class)	1:00 PM		
12/8/2022	Section A (10:30 MWF Class)	1:00 PM		
12/12/2022	Final Grades Due			