Welcome to Beginning Algebra!

ASC 094 TuTh Syllabus—Fall 2014

"*Just a darn minute! Yesterday you said X equals two!*"
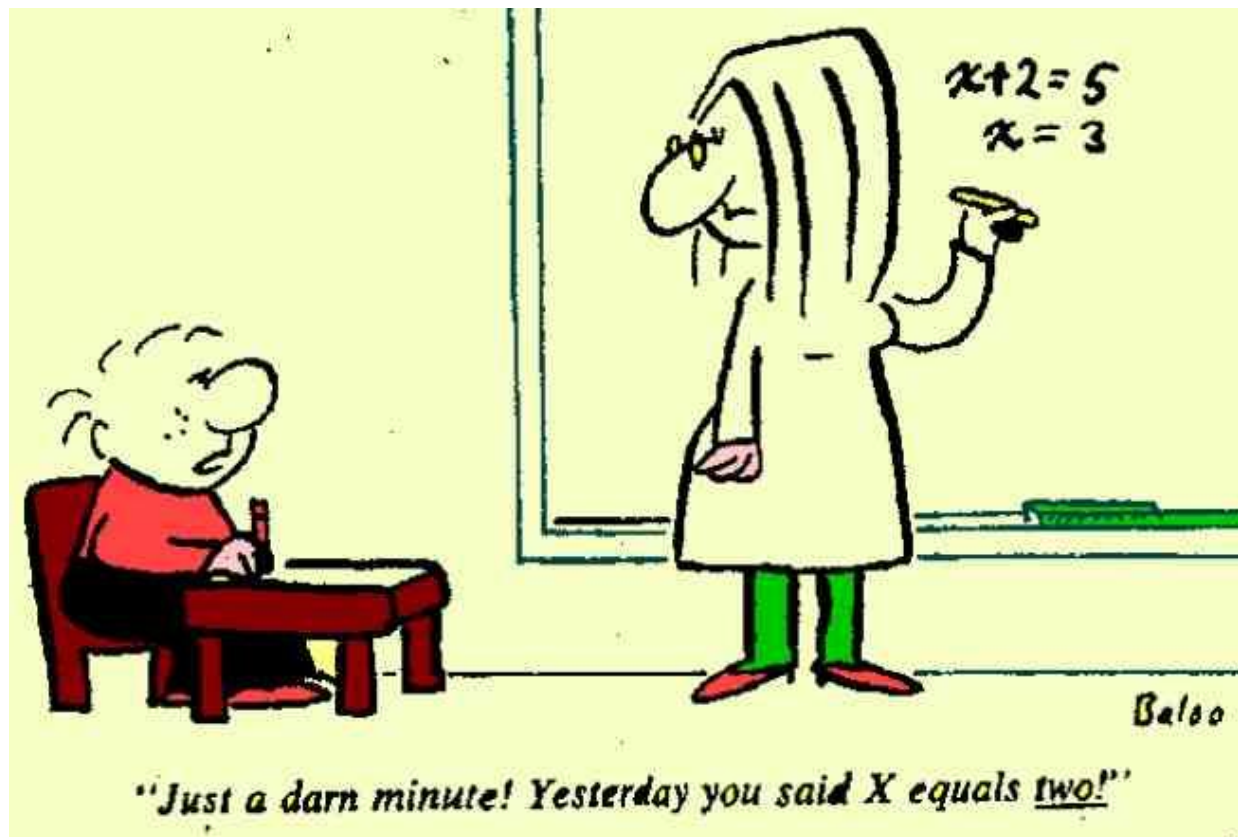
Instructor: Connie Blair

Office: Administration 159

Contact: connie.blair@minotstateu.edu or (701) 858-4339

Office Hours: Drop-In or By Appointment

Technical Problems: If you have a technical program with MyMathLab, please visit http://www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com/northamerica/mymathlab/students/support/.
.
Class Schedule: TuTh 9:30-10:45; TuTh 11:00-12:15 in Hartnett Hall room 316

Pre-Requisites: None

Welcome to Beginning Algebra! This three credit course will span sixteen weeks.

This class does *not* satisfy college graduation requirements for math! Throughout this course you will be asked to complete daily homework assignments, quizzes, chapter tests, and a final exam. Topics covered will include properties fundamental operations, factoring, fractions, exponents, radicals, and equations. This course will utilize the MyMathLab system for homework, while quizzes and test will be taken on paper in the classroom. If you do not understand something in or out of class, don't forget that *you are not in this alone*! Stop me in class when you do not understand, utilize the "help me solve this!" feature in MyMathLab when you are stuck on a question, stop by my office if you would like to go over something in more detail, create a study group with your classmates, and/or ask for a tutor. This class will be challenging, but *YOU CAN DO IT!*

Course Objectives

As an active participant in this class, you will learn techniques to analyze and solve various types of intermediate algebra problems and utilize a graphing calculator to solve algebra problems, when necessary. There will be no calculator use in this course.

Learning Environment

As an active participant in this class, you will be attending class for three hours each week. These classes will utilize both direct instruction and collaborative learning. This course utilizes an online learning system called MyMathLab. Through MyMathLab, students will have access to worked out explanations, textbook lessons, and video demonstrations. Students may also utilize the e-mail tool to ask classmates and the instructor questions about assignments.

*Note: While you do have access to helpful learning tools in MyMathLab, these tools are not a replacement for classroom instruction and participation. **Expect to attend every class!***

Textbook

Beginning and Intermediate Algebra by Tobey, Slater, Blair, and Crawford; 4th edition; Pearson.
NOTE: You have the option of purchasing the online-only text or the textbook with the online component. I suggest you use the free two-week trial of the online textbook before making your final decision. You can purchase your textbook or online access code at the MSU bookstore.

Course Requirements

Learning algebra is an _investment of time_. Algebra is learned best by practicing, reflecting, and practicing some more. While understanding the steps in the topic explanations and video presentations is a good first step, to truly master the material you should be able to look at a problem, know how to proceed and be able to carry out the steps **WITHOUT ASSISTANCE**. The multiple attempts allowed during independent practice (including homework and practice tests) in MyMathLab provides opportunities for you to get to that point. Passing grades on quizzes and chapter tests demonstrate that you have indeed mastered the skills taught.

Evaluation

Homework—15%   Homework can be found under the homework tab in MyMathLab. You may work ahead, but each homework assignment must be completed by the due date listed otherwise there will be a 30% penalty. Grades of 80% or higher are required to proceed to the subsequent homework assignment. There is no limit to the number of times you can complete a homework assignment.

Quizzes—25%   Mid-chapter quizzes will be taken on paper in the classroom, unless otherwise stated. _Missed quizzes must be made up within three business days._

Tests—60%   There will be five tests throughout the semester. Your final exam may replace your lowest test score. **There will be no make-ups**.
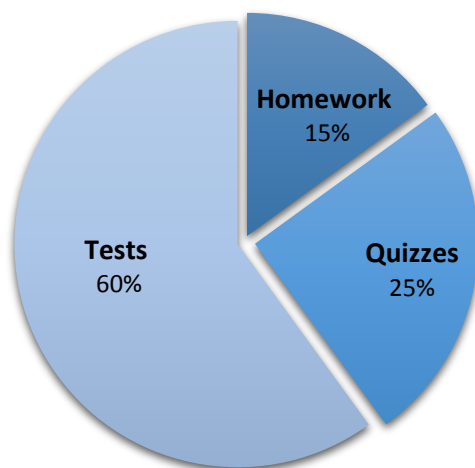
Based on North Dakota state policy, students must earn a grade of C or higher to be promoted to the next level of college mathematics. Letter grades are assigned using the following scale.

A 89.50%-100%
B 79.50%-89.49%
C 69.50%-79.49%
D 59.50%-69.49%
F 59.49% or lower

Relationship to Campus Theme

The student will begin to see applications of algebra in nature, business, health, construction, etc. As they use the graphing calculator, they can solve real life problems with large numbers. These problems will require critical thinking and interaction with other students.

Class Policies

Attendance
The sequential nature of mathematics deems it necessary for students to attend class and *participate* on a regular basis, therefore one of the course requirements is *regular attendance and participation*. If are unable to attend class for whatever reason, please notify the instructor immediately.

Assignments
Students may work ahead; however, each assignment must be completed on or before the due date to receive full credit.

Electronic Devices
Turn off or mute (not vibrate) cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices. Students who text, use snapchat, or do anything else on their cellphone during class will be made fun of. If your cellphone use is disturbing others, you will be asked to leave. ***There will be absolutely no headphones in my classroom.***

Student Email Policy

Dakota College at Bottineau is increasingly dependent upon email as an official form of communication. A student's campus-assigned email address will be the only one recognized by the campus for official mailings. The liability for missing or not acting upon important information conveyed via campus email rests with the student. Therefore, you MUST use your school e-mail address to create your MyMathLab account!

Disabilities and Special Needs

If you have a disability for which you need accommodation, please *see me immediately*. If you have already met with Student Developmental personnel, please provide me with the information regarding your needs so that I can make the appropriate accommodations.

Academic Integrity

The academic community is operated on the basis of honesty, integrity and fair play. It is the expectation that all students, as members of the college community, adhere to the highest levels of academic integrity. This means that

- Students are responsible for submitting their own work. Student work must not be plagiarized.
- Students must not work together on graded assignments without authorization from the instructor or get help from people, technological resources, textbooks, notes, etc. on examinations.

Violations of academic principles such as cheating, plagiarism or other academic improprieties will be handled using the guidelines outlined in the Student Handbook.

Key Considerations for Academic Success

- ✓ Be an active participant in class every day. Use the e-mail tool to ask your classmates questions and don't forget to utilize your instructor!
- ✓ Balance school with the rest of your life. Plan enough study time to do well in this class. You can expect to spend 2-3 hours on each homework assignment.
- ✓ Use good study habits and get academic assistance at the first warning sign! If you are struggling with a topic or homework assignment don't hesitate to *ask someone!*
- ✓ Understand the impact of dropping classes both academically and financially.
- ✓ Don't put off for tomorrow what you can do today.

Free Online Tutoring!

Smarthinking is an online tutoring service that includes tutorials and live chat twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week! To access Smarthinking, login to *Moodle* by going to www.dakotacollege.edu → online students → go to class. You will login using your CampusConnection username and password. Once logged in, click on the *DCB Learning Center* link. Then locate *Resources and Technology*, and click on the *Smarthinking* link. If you have questions about Smarthinking, please contact the distance education office at 1-888-918-5623.

The Khan Academy has an extensive library of content, including interactive challenges, assessments, and videos that students can access from any computer with access to the internet. If you're stuck on a topic, visit www.khanacademy.org and find a video and an exercise to help you out!

ASC 094 TuTh Fall 2014 Due Dates

August 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25 Evening and Online Classes begin after 4:00pm	26 First day of Beginning Algebra! Complete the MML overview and review the syllabus for HW	27	28 Hoop, Rates, and Percents HW: Complete Worksheet	29	30

September 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 LABOR DAY	2 Simplifying & Adding/Subtracting Fractions HW: Chapter 0.1 & 0.2	3 *last day to add a class and drop a class with 100% refund*	4 Multiplying/Dividing Fractions & Using Decimals HW: Chapter 0.3 & 0.4	5	6
7	8	9 Percents, Problem Solving, and **Quiz 1: Chapter 0.1-0.4** HW: chapter 0.5 & 0.6	10	11 Chapter 0 Review Game	12	13
14	15	16 **Chapter 0 Test**	17	18 Adding and Subtracting Real Numbers HW: Chapter 1.1 & 1.2	19	20
21	22	23 Multiplying/Dividing Real Numbers & Exponents HW: Chapter 1.3 & 1.4	24	25 The Order of Operations HW: Chapter 1.5	26	27
28	29	30 The Distributive Property, Combining Like Terms and **Quiz 2: Chapter 1.1-1.5** HW: Chapter 1.6, 1.7				

NATURE,
TECHNOLOGY,
& BEYOND

DAKOTA COLLEGE
AT BOTTINEAU   MINOT CAMPUS

WWW.DAKOTACOLLEGE.EDU

October 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Using Substitution and Grouping Symbols HW: Chapter 1.8 & 1.9	3	4
5	6	7 Chapter 1 Test Review	8 Assessment Day: No Classes	9 Chapter 1 Test	10	11
12	13	14 Addition & Multiplication Principles of Equality and Using the Principles Together HW: Chapter 2.1, 2.2 & 2.3	15	16 Solving Equations with Fractions HW: Chapter 2.4	17 *Mid-Term grades due*	18
19	20	21 Translating English to Algebra and Solving Word Problems and **Quiz 3: Chapter 2.1-2.4** HW: Chapter 2.5 & 2.6	22	23 Solving Inequalities in One Variable HW: Chapter 2.8	24	25
26	27	28 Chapter 2 Test Review	29	30 Chapter 2 Test	31	

November 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 The Rules of Exponents, Negative Exponents, and Scientific Notation HW: Chapter 5.1 & 5.2	5	6 Fundamental Polynomial Operations and Multiplying Polynomials HW: Chapter 5.3, 5.4 & 5.5	7	8
9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13 Dividing Polynomials and **Quiz 4: Chapter 5.1-5.3** HW: Chapter 5.6	14	15
16	17	18 Chapter 5 Test Review	19	20 Chapter 5 Test	21	22
23 30	24	25 TBD	26	27	28 Thanksgiving break—no classes!	29

DAKOTA COLLEGE AT BOTTINEAU

NATURE, TECHNOLOGY, & BEYOND

MINOT CAMPUS

December 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Removing a Common Factor, Factor by Grouping, and Factoring Trinomials HW: Chapter 6.1&6.2 and 6.3	3	4 The Rectangular Coordinate System and Graphing and **Quiz 5: Chapter 6.1-6.3** HW: Chapter 3.1 & 3.2	5	6
7	8	9 **Chapter 6&3 Test**	10	11 Final Exam Review	12	13
14	15 **Original Class: 9:30-10:45** **Final Exam: Today from 10:00-11:50**	16	17	18 **Original Class: 11:00-12:15** **Final Exam: Today from 10:00-11:50**	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 HAPPY NEW YEAR	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 *Classes begin after 4:00 pm*	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31