SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE
Patrick Staley

MATH 65 - INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA

Instructor: Patrick Staley
    Office: 390D
    Office hours: 10:00-10:50am Mon-Fri
    Website: www.mr-ideahamster.com
    Email: pstaley@swc.cc.ca.us
    Telephone: 421-6700, ext 5521

Text: <u>Intermediate Algebra Discovery and Visualization Third Edition</u> (custom edition), by Hubbard and Robinson

Prerequisite: Math 45 or qualifying Mathematics Placement Score.

Class Hours: 9:00-9:50am Mon-Fri in room 391

Graphing Calculator Required. Recommended calculators are the TI-83+, TI-85, or TI-86.

Course Description: A study of--
    linear equations and inequalities,
    graphs and functions,
    systems of linear equations and inequalities,
    polynomials,
    factoring,
    rational expressions,
    roots radicals and complex numbers,
    quadratic functions and the algebra of functions,
    conic sections,
    exponential and logarithmic functions,
    arithmetic and geometric series.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all lectures. If a student misses excessive class time, he/she may be dropped. Attendance is taken with a seating chart.

Homework: There will be homework due nearly every class period. Repeated failure to complete homework assignments will result in the student being dropped for non-performance.

Grading Policy: Your final grade will be a composite of six or more chapter tests and a Final Exam. The Final Exam is weighted as two chapter tests. Letter grades of A,B,C,D, or F are assigned to each chapter test and Final Exam. These are incorporated into the final grade based on the weight assignments A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, and F=0. Excessive F scores (three) will result in a lower class grade regardless of the weighted average score. The final exam is comprehensive. There will be no make up tests.

Example of Grading Algorithm: Assume chapter test grades of B,D,B,C,B,A, and final exam grade of A. Then Class Grade = (3+1+3+2+3+4+4*2)/8 = 3.0 = B (note that for the class grade A is 3.5 to 4.0, B is 2.5 to 3.5, C is 1.5 to 2.5, D is 1. to 1.5, and F is 0 to .99)

Knowing the correct answer to an exam question is insufficient—the correct answer must be written on the answer sheet. Exam answers that confuse the grader will be marked wrong.

Website: www.mr-ideahamster.com/classes/classes.htm contains current notes to students including information on exams, an updated syllabus, the current grade sheet (password protected), practice problems, practice tests, answers to practice tests, electronic tutorials, and other relevant information.

Exclusion Policy: A student may be dropped from the class for excessive absences, non-performance, cheating, or disruptive behavior.

Cheating: Behavior indicative of cheating will be handled by an oral exam, the outcome of which will be one of: F grade on the exam, F grade for the semester, dropping the class, or reinstatement of the original score. This penalty also applies to any accomplice.

Projected Schedule and homework assignments are available on the website.

Initial Assignment: Buy the text book, buy a calculator, read chapter one in the text, do problems from 1.1-1.4, and start reading the calculator manual.