Beginning Algebra/ MATH 350.001/Fall 2023

Instructor Information

Name	Ms. Lidia Dattalo
Office Location	GAB 452
Tutoring Hours	Wed. from 3:30-5:00 pm in SAGE 342
Office hours	Mon. 10:45 am – 12:45 pm
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Connect with me through email and/or by attending office hours. Office hours offer you an opportunity to ask for clarification or find support with understanding class material. Come visit me! I encourage you to connect with me for support During busy times, my inbox becomes rather full, so if you contact me and do not receive a response within two business days, please send a follow up email. A gentle nudge is always appreciated.

Course Description, Prerequisites, and Objectives

Course Description

3 hours. The course supports students in developing skills, strategies, and reasoning needed to succeed in mathematics, including communication and appropriate use of technology. Topics include the study of numeracy and the real number system; algebraic concepts, notation, and reasoning; quantitative relationships; mathematical models; and problem solving.

Course Prerequisites

Student did not meet the minimum score on the TSI and is considered TSI Incomplete.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Use appropriate symbolic notation and vocabulary to communicate, interpret, and explain mathematical concepts.
2. Define, represent, and perform operations on real numbers, applying numeric reasoning to investigate and describe quantitative relationships and solve real world problems in a variety of contexts.
3. Use algebraic reasoning to solve problems that require ratios, rates, percentages, and proportions in a variety of contexts using multiple representations.
4. Apply algebraic reasoning to manipulate expressions and equations to solve real world problems.
5. Use graphs, tables, and technology to analyze, interpret, and compare data sets.
6. Construct and use mathematical models in verbal, algebraic, graphical, and tabular form to solve problems from a variety of contexts and to make predictions and decisions

Course Structure

This is a 16-week course that meets face-to-face in a classroom three times a week. The course will cover 7 modules and you will be assessed by completing 4 exams and a cumulative final exam.

Course Materials/Required Materials

The textbook is Martin-Gay, Elayn, *Developmental Mathematics, 4th edition*, Pearson Publishers (2020). It is available online through MyLabs.

Pearson MyLabs Math: MyLabs is an online course delivery platform accessed directly through Canvas. MyLabs access includes all online homework assignments, the e-text of *Developmental Mathematics, 4th edition*, by Elayn Martin-Gay, and additional learning resources.

MyLabs grants a no-cost temporary 14-day access. You ***must purchase your access*** before the temporary access expires. **If you do not make the purchase before temporary period ends, you may lose credit for all work previously completed.** Use your official UNT roster name when you register in MyLabs. I cannot give credit to a student enrolled in this course for work completed under a different name.

Pearson MyLabs Student Technical Support

MyLabs offers student technical support at Pearson Student Technical Support (https://mlm.pearson.com/northamerica/students/support/index.html)

Calculator Policy

A basic 4-function calculator will be allowed on select exams. Student may not use the calculator app on the phone, nor a scientific or graphing calculator. The basic calculator will have fewer buttons and it must not have a button that includes +/- (positive/negative).

Technical Requirements & Skills

Minimum Technology Requirement	• Computer, tablet, or laptop that is compatible with all required apps for the course • A smartphone ***is not*** sufficient • Reliable internet access • Canvas Technical Requirements (https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements) • MyLab Technical Requirements (https://mlm.pearson.com/northamerica/students/support/system-requirements/index.html)
Computer Skills & Digital Literacy	• Navigate Canvas and MyLabs • Message electronically through Canvas Inbox • Complete assignments online (Canvas, MyLabs) • Scanning documents and saving as PDF

If circumstances change, you will be informed of other technical needs to access course content.

Course Requirements

Evaluation components include activities, attendance, homework, modules exams and the final exam. Description of each component follows:

Activities – 5%
Attendance – 5%
Homework (MyLabs) – 15%
Module Exams (average of all) – 55%
Final Exam – 20%

Course Grade

Your course grade is determined by your performance on the graded items. Unfortunately, there will be no opportunity for extra credit, nor will the grades be curved. Your grades will be posted in Canvas Grades.

- A [90, 100+), The student performs well above the minimum criteria.

- B [80, 90), The student performs above the minimum criteria.
- C [70, 80), The student meets the minimum criteria.
- NP [0, 70), The student does not meet the minimum criteria.

Activities

Student activities may be completed during class time and will require active participation, while some activities may be completed outside of class time. Activities may include time management, group work, self-reflection writing prompts, etc.

Attendance

Attendance will be taken every class period and will be worth 5% of the course grade. The attendance grade will be determined by the number of absences. Every student will begin with an attendance grade of 100% and will be allowed 3 free absences that will NOT affect the attendance grade. After three unexcused absences, the attendance grade will decrease by 5 points. For example, if a student misses 7 days of class, then the student will receive an attendance grade of 75%.

Students will be able to earn back attendance credit by attending the TSI Math Lab (SAGE 342), as long as: (1) Make-up session(s) **must** be completed in the TSI Math Lab within two (2) weeks of absence; (2) signed in and actively working in the TSI Math Lab; and (3) attendance in the lab *cannot* be used for extra credit

Homework

The purpose of homework is to allow you the opportunity to learn, practice, and retain new skills. Continued practice is how you learn, so it is crucial for you to carve out regular time to work on developing and improving your skills. Expect to have two (2) – four (4) MyLabs online homework per week, starting the first week of classes.

Although the homework will be presented electronically through Canvas and MyLabs, working through the material on paper is essential for developing the skills necessary to communicate math in the written form.

Generally, you will be given three (3) attempts on each question. However, if you do not receive full-credit for a problem, you may attempt that problem again by clicking the "Similar Exercise" button. This allows you the ability to earn a 100% on every MyLabs assignment. Your lowest three (3) lowest homework scores will be dropped.

Exams

There will be four (4) exams given during the semester. There are no retakes on exams.

Final Exam

The Final Exam is comprehensive and will test the student's math skills on all content covered throughout the entire semester. This exam will be taken during the last week of classes at the time specified in the official Final Exam Schedule.

Course Policies

Academic Dishonesty

Cheating will not be tolerated. Any student found cheating will receive a zero on the assignments; and may receive an F for the course, if found cheating on an exam. A report will be filed with the Office of Academic Integrity. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, discussing exam items with any student currently enrolled in this course; posting exam items and/or exam-related questions on messaging apps; accessing notes, textbook, or ANY source of help during a test AND providing help as well.

The Academic Integrity Policy (PDF) states: According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

ADA Policy

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the ODA website (https://disability.unt.edu/).

Attendance/Active Participation

Being engaged in a class will have its ups and downs but please make a commitment to yourself that you will stay actively engaged and on-task each week, as active participation is important and vital to your success. In this class, attendance means physically attending class and staying actively engaged in discussions, along with taking notes. As a side note, I have great respect for students who are balancing the demands of their coursework along with the responsibilities of life beyond the classroom. However, if you run into challenges that cause you to fall behind in class, please contact me immediately so we can work together, as there may be resources available to assist and support you.

Examination Policy

There will be four (4) module exams and one (1) final exam during the semester. Keep a record of all your scores. Be sure to review your module exams once it has been reviewed by the instructor and officially graded.

Examination Etiquette

Exams will be taken in the classroom during our regular class meetings. When it is time for the exam, the following lists the expectations:

- Place all papers, textbooks, notes, etc. in a backpack or a book bag and close it securely.
- Turn off/remove all electronic devices (unless medically necessary), this includes cell phones, headphones, laptops, smartwatches, etc.
- Handling of ANY such electronic devices during an exam will be construed as cheating (receiving unauthorized aid) and may result in a zero for that exam.
- Do not wear hats or caps with brims during exams.
- Do not share any materials during an exam. This includes, but is not limited to pencils, erasers, calculators, etc.

- Only approved calculators during select exams. It is your responsibility to know how to work the calculator you bring to the test.
- Have only the exam, pencil(s), eraser and occasionally a calculator or a straight-edge out during an exam. There will be space to show work on the actual exam.
- You will not be permitted to have any of your own scratch paper during an exam.

If you miss an exam, a grade of zero will be recorded for that exam. If you receive a zero for academic dishonesty on an exam, the final exam score will NOT replace that zero.

Missed Exam Policy

- **Advanced notice of absence**: If you have a known conflict with a scheduled exam date, you may request to take your exam early. The request must be sent to Canvas Inbox at least one week prior to the scheduled exam date, as this allows enough time to make proper adjustments/arrangements. If a student does not take a scheduled exam, a zero will be recorded for that exam and a notice may be sent through the registrar's office.
- **University excused absence**: if you have a university excused absence such as active military service, a religious holy day, or an official university function as stated in the Student Attendance and Authorized Absences Policy (PDF) , and provide me documentation within 2 business days of the missed exam, then the zero will be replaced by your final exam grade (this includes missing an exam due to illness). If you receive a zero for academic dishonesty on an exam, the final exam score will NOT replace that zero.
- **Unexcused Absence:** If you miss an exam, a zero will be recorded for that exam grade and your final exam score will replace that one zero, up to a maximum grade of 75%. If you receive a zero for academic dishonesty on an exam, the final exam score will NOT replace that zero

Late Work Policy

UNT is a community of dreamers and doers who pursue excellence in everything. With that in mind, there are standards and expectations set for the class, which includes that work will be completed and submitted by the posted the due date. If an assignment is not completed and submitted by the due date, then unfortunately a grade of zero will be recorded.

Important Dates

Date	Importance of Date
Aug 21	Classes Begin
Sept 1	Census Date
Sept 4	Labor Day (no classes)
Nov 10	Last day for a student to drop a course with a W.
Nov 11	Beginning this date, a student who qualifies may request an Incomplete, with a grade of I.
Nov 20 – 26	Thanksgiving Break (University closed)
Dec 6 – 7	Pre-finals Days
Dec 7	Last Regular Class Meeting
Dec 8	Reading Day (no classes)
Dec 9 – 15	Final Exams

Emergency Notification and Procedures

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills,

fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials. Emergency Notifications and Procedures Policy (PDF) (https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-049).

Changes to Syllabus

Changes made to the syllabus will be posted as an Announcement in Canvas, so make sure that notifications in Canvas are set correctly.

Weekly Modules/Schedule of Due Dates

You can access the MyLabs assignments directly through Canvas – Canvas is your one-stop shop.

About the Calendar

The pages that follow include a tentative calendar. Several dates are fixed, especially the homework and Exam due dates. Other dates are intended to give you a guide for your progress. For instance, the “due" dates for the lecture notes will not be graded, but should give you a sense of how to plan your time to complete all of the material. I'll add that the homework can always be worked ahead, so the due dates could be much sooner than those listed. The exams are expected to be taken at the listed times. If this will cause you a problem, please contact me as soon as possible.

Week	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
1	8/21	8/23	8/25
	M1A - Order of Operations - whole numbers.	M1B - Simplifying Fractions M1C - Mult & Div Fractions	M1D - Add & Sub Fractions with like denominators
2	8/28	8/30	9/1
	M1E - Add & Sub Fractions with unlike denominators M1F - Mixed Numbers and Improper Fractions	M1G - Order of Operations – Fractions	M2A - Integers M2B - Order of Operations – Integers
3	9/4	9/6	9/8
	Labor Day	M2C - Properties of Real Numbers M2D - Evaluating Expressions	M2E - Simplifying Algebraic Expressions **M1 and M2 Review**
4	9/11	9/13	9/15
	M1 and M2 Exam	M3A - Solve equations – Addition Property M3B - Solve equations – Multiplication Property	M3C - Solving more equations M3D - Literal equations
5	9/18	9/20	9/22
	M3E – Linear inequalities	M4A - Applications (Linear)	M4B - Applications (Proportion & Percent)
6	9/25	9/27	9/29
	M4C - Applications (Sales tax, commission, and Discount)	M4D - Applications involving inequalities	**M3 and M4 Review**
7	10/2	10/4	10/6
	M3 and M4 Exam	M5A - Intro to Graphing	M5B – Slope
8	10/9	10/11	10/13
	M5C - Slope Intercept Form	M5C - Slope Intercept Form, cont'd.	M5D - Intercept Form
9	10/16	10/18	10/20

	M5E - Equation of lines	M5F - Application of two variables	**M5 Exam Review**
10	10/23	10/25	10/27
	M5 Exam	M6A – Exponents	M6A – Exponents, cont'd.
11	10/30	11/1	11/3
	M6B - Negative Exponents & Scientific Notation	M6C - Introduction to Polynomials	M6C - Introduction to Polynomials, cont'd.
12	11/6	11/8	11/10
	M6D - Multiplying Polynomials	M6E - Special Products	M6F - Dividing Polynomials
13	11/13	11/15	11/17
	M7A - Introduction to Factoring	M7B - Factor by Grouping	M7C - Factoring Trinomials of the form $ax^2 + bx + c$ by Grouping
	11/20	11/22	11/24
	THANKSGIVING WEEK		
14	11/27	11/29	12/1
	M7D - Factoring Trinomials	M7E - Factor Special Patterns	**M6 and M7 Review**
15	12/4	12/6	12/8
	M6 and M7 Exam	**FINAL EXAM REVIEW**	**Reading Day No Class**
16	12/11		
	WEEK OF FINALS		

Welcome to UNT!

As members of the UNT community, we have all made a commitment to be part of an institution that respects and values the identities of the students and employees with whom we interact. UNT does not tolerate identity-based discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. UNT's full Non-Discrimination Policy can be found in the UNT Policies section of the syllabus.

UNT Policies

In addition to standards for success in courses, there are UNT policies and procedures in place to support students. You can access these policies in Navigate (Navigate.unt.edu), in Canvas under the Help menu, in EIS, and on the Student Support Services & Policies page, which includes:

- Policies include:
    - Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation, Academic Integrity Policy, ADA Policy and Retention of Student Records
- Student Expectations and Preferences include:
    - Acceptable Student Behavior, Use of Student Work, Important Notice for F-1 Students Taking Distance Education Courses, Student Verification
- Student Wellness and Academic Resources include:
    - Survivor Advocacy, Mental Health, Technical Assistance, Academic Support Services and Additional Student Support Services
- Communications include:
    - Eagle Connect, Emergency Notification and Student Evaluation Administration Dates

Rules of Engagement

Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

- While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.
- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
- Speak from personal experiences. Use "I" statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual's experiences.
- Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people's ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
- Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as "YELLING!"
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
- Avoid using "text-talk" unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.
- Proofread and fact-check your sources.
- Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.