

Fall 2006 MA090 Beginning Algebra

WS 3801

11-11: 50 MTWRF

Text: *Beginning Algebra Once And For All* by Jamsen & Hetler **Instructor:** Jim Brogan

Office: 1009 NSF 227-2558 Office hours 12-2:50 W Th by appointment

Math Office phone: 227-2020

e- mail: jbrogan@nmu.edu

Prerequisite: At least a B- in MA 080 or satisfactory Placement Test Score!

You will need a scientific calculator (I strongly recommend a Texas Instrument model TI-30Xa), a notebook for notes and homework, a protractor, and graph paper. **A pencil and eraser are REQUIRED for quizzes and tests. You do not need a graphing calculator!**

Attendance EVERY DAY is absolutely essential. The course is non-traditional, and self-teaching is likely to be difficult. In case of an illness or other emergency that results in class absence, you are responsible for keeping up with assignments. Do not assume that I know you are ill. Use e-mail or leave a message with the Math Office at 227-2020. Extra-help is available. Times and places will be announced

Turn off cell phones, pagers, and other electronic equipment during class.

Assignments:

Homework will be assigned daily. Complete it daily to get full benefit from the course. I suggest you study your text with a highlighter and pencil handy. Highlight important ideas and note passages about which you have a question. **Keep your class notes and homework in a spiral or loose leaf notebook**, not written in the text. You will be assigned to a group to do exploration-type problems outside of class. Every student **must** participate in group work. A signature from each person in the group is required when the solution to the assignment is submitted. Each group project will be due as announced in class. Each member of a group earns the same grade. Each group project will count the same as a 10-point quiz. It is not possible to make-up a missed group project; however, you may be excused for good reason. Group work will be assigned after the Chapter One test. The requirements are on the back of this sheet. Friday will be reserved for group work!

Tests & Quizzes:

Quizzes will be given often and will count 10 points each. Some quizzes will be announced; others will not. Quiz questions will model your homework. **You must take quizzes at the scheduled time. No make-up quizzes will be given, however, you may be excused for good reason.** I will drop your 6 lowest quiz scores when I calculate your final semester grade. Any unexcused quiz grade will count as a zero and are never dropped!

There will be a test after each completed chapter. Tests will cover reading, homework, and concepts discussed in class. **No test scores will be dropped.** You must take tests at their scheduled times. **No make-up is possible for any test unless you notify me before test time.** A documented excuse is necessary in order to take a make-up test. **Only students who have taken all chapter tests will be admitted to the final exam.** A *comprehensive final* exam will be given during exam week in December.

Approximate Grading Scale:

A: 90-100% of your possible points; B: 80-89% of your possible points; C: 70-79 % of your possible points; D: 60-69 % of your possible points; F: < 60 % of your possible points. Grades on quizzes and tests are not curved. The grade you earn is dependent on the total number of points you accumulate. Your final grade is weighted with the final exam counted as 15%.

To pass the course you must take all tests and the final exam unless you are exempted from the exam. In short, if you fail to take a test, you fail the course!!! Students with an average of at least 90% through Chapter 6 will be exempted from the final exam. A grade of AT LEAST C- is required for registration in MA100.

If you have a need for disability-related accommodations or services, please inform the Coordinator of Disability Services in the Disability Services Office by: coming into the office at 2001 C. B. Hedgcock; calling 227-1700; or e-mailing disserv@nmu.edu. Reasonable and effective accommodations and services will be provided to students if requests are made in a timely manner, with appropriate documentation, in accordance with federal, state, and University guidelines.

Rules for Group Work MA 090
Mr. Brogan

To be earn credit for group work:

1. You **must** participate in the group work. The assigned group leader will be responsible for submitting one paper from the group. The group may elect a different group leader by majority vote of the group.
2. Each group leader must submit one paper with the **group number at the top of the paper**. Also, include **printed names of students that participated at the top of the paper**
3. The paper must be turned in at the start of class on the due date. It is important to note, very few extensions to the due date are granted.
4. 11AM groups should meet on Friday from 11 to 11:50 PM. The group must arrange a meeting place.
5. Do not include names of students that did not work on the group project.

Credit will be assigned as follows:

1. To earn credit, the answer must be accompanied by work that justifies or supports the answer.
2. Partial credit may be earned even though the final answer is incorrect.
3. Each group work project will count the same as a 10 point quiz.
4. Each participating member of the group earns the same score.
5. Your lowest three non-zero group projects will be dropped. Zero scores (no paper submitted) are never dropped!

No credit is possible if:

1. No paper is submitted.
2. Your paper is turned in after the due date without teacher permission.
3. You did not participate in the group to which you were assigned.
4. Participating members include non-participating members names.

No make up work will be given for group work missed!!!!!!
You may be excused from a group project for good reason.

Help on group projects will not be available from me! However, you may use other resources of NMU to guide you.