

Northern Michigan University - Winter 2005
MA 104 –College Algebra with Applications

7:00 to 8:40 p.m.
Tuesday, Thursday
West Science 3803

Instructor: Pat Jennings
Office: 321 North Front St. (Near Landmark Inn)
Phone: 228-2808 (or you can call my cell 869-1814)
email: Pat@PatJennings.net [NOTE: I do not have a campus email address]

office hours: **by appointment only**
I will be available in the classroom immediately before class and for a short while after class on Thursdays only. I cannot stay at all on Tuesday since I have another commitment. If you need more time, please call me at my office and schedule an appointment.

Since I do not have an on campus office, I will be using email to communicate with you outside of class. I will ask you for your email address on Thursday. This will be kept confidential, but I will use this to convey information to you. It is your responsibility to check your email before class to find assignments, test dates, class cancellations, etc. I will try to get all information to you at least 24 hours in advance. If you change your email address, please email me a message and let me know. Also, if you have any questions about the class, you may email me (or call me) any time.

Prerequisites: A C- or better on MA100 or a satisfactory score on the math placement test. If you wonder whether you should take this course, please see me before the end of the first week of classes.

Text: Applied Algebra – A Graphing Approach, Saunders College Publishing, 2000

Other Material: A graphing calculator. I suggest a TI-82, TI-83, TI-86, TI-89 or something similar. The calculator should have a graphing screen and a lot of buttons. Alternatively, you can use your laptop if you have **TI Interactive** installed.

The Game Plan: We will go through the Review section, then chapters 1 through 7. The pace will be determined by how well you are understanding the material, but we will cover all 7 sections. We will go through homework questions at the beginning of class and the rest of the class will be for lecture, discussion, problem solving, games, etc.

Grading: Grades will be weighted according to the following formula:

Chapter Tests	60%
Quizzes	10%
Final Exam	30%

The final grade will be a weighted average of the above corresponding to the following scale:

A	90 - 100
B	80 - 89.99
C	70 - 79.99
D	60 - 69.99
F	less than 60

There will be no other grades given. Incompletes will be pursuant to University policy.

Unless announced otherwise, all tests and quizzes are closed book and closed notes. Calculators may be used and tables will be provided, if needed.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be given periodically, unannounced, and cannot be made up under any circumstances. If you miss only one or two quizzes, it will not significantly affect your grade. However, missing most of them will.

**Chapter:
Tests:** There will be at least four tests (or more), usually at the end of each chapter. Tests will be announced at least one week in advance, in class and by email, and you will have one hour to complete it. The actual test dates will depend on how fast the class is going. The Final Exam will be two hours long and will cover the entire course. You *must* take the final exam to pass the course.

Tests can be made up only for a good reason and you must provide documented proof (i.e. note from doctor, subpoena, funeral announcement, etc.) before you can take a makeup. If possible, please notify me before the test if you are not going to be there. Except for university related functions, it is entirely my discretion as to whether or not the reason that you have for missing a test is valid.

All makeup tests will be taken in the Mathematics Dept. office on the first floor of West Hall. No tests will be returned until all makeups have been completed.

Homework: Homework assignments will be given, but not graded. If you want me to go over a particular homework problem, please email me the page and problem number so that I can over it the next class.

As a general rule, you should spend two hours on homework for every hour that you are in class. (This applies for all college courses) Since this is a 4 credit hour course, you should spend at least 8 hours per week on reading and homework assignments. If you have had an especially hard time with mathematics in the past, plan on spending at least 12 hours per week for this course. I recommend that you set scheduled times for this course (as well as your other courses) and stick to it. Plan now so that you do not get bogged down later in the semester.

Attendance: Other than the quiz grades, I will not be taking attendance for this course. However, since you have made a substantial financial investment in this course, it is to your advantage to put your best effort into learning the material that is presented by attending class regularly and keeping up on the homework. If you are not able to attend class due to work commitments, child care, or some other reason, let me know and we can work out some reasonable arrangement.

Academic Honesty: You must do all of your own work. If you cheat, you will not learn the material, and if you get away with passing this course by cheating, you will be frustrated in your later courses. Also, you will be constantly looking over your shoulder worried about getting caught, and that, in itself is not worth it. If you do get caught cheating on a test or other assignment, you will get an automatic **F** for this course, and you could be subject to other sanctions. Remember, if you cheat, you are really cheating yourself out of time, money, and, possibly, your future career.

Disabilities: If you have a need for disability-related accommodations or services, please inform the Coordinator of Disability Services in the Disability Services Office at 1104 University Center (227-1737). 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.

Miscellaneous: This is a Division III mathematics course in the Liberal Studies program. The students who complete this course should be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of mathematical logic, use mathematics to solve scientific or mathematical problems in college classes, express relationships in the symbolic language of mathematics, and appreciate the role of probability and statistics in analyzing natural phenomena.