

**SYLLABUS**  
**MAT 161A**  
**COLLEGE ALGEBRA**  
**Spring 2009**

**Faculty Information**

**Instructor:** Joshua Cushman, M.S. Math Ed.  
**Email Address:** cushman.joshua@abtech.edu  
**Office:** Elm 340  
**Phone:** 989-7982 (cell)  
**Office Hours:** before and after class or by appointment

**Course Information**

**Course Title:** College Algebra Lab  
**Course Number:** MAT 161A – o12  
**Credit Hours:** 1  
**Class Location:** www.coursecompass.com  
**Class URL ID:** cushman65837

**Course Description:** This course is a laboratory for MAT 161. Emphasis is placed on experiences that enhance the materials presented in the class. Upon completion, students should be able to solve problems, apply critical thinking, work in teams, and communicate effectively. This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement pre-major and/or elective course requirement.

**Grading Policy:** Your grade for this class will be based on online quizzes and lab assignments. The quiz average will account for 40% of your final grade, while the lab average will account for 60% of your final grade. Once you begin a quiz, you must complete it. Quizzes cannot be restarted. All labs and quizzes will be online and must be completed by the posted due dates. Any work not completed by the due dates will be recorded as a zero. If for any reason it is necessary for you to withdraw from this class, you must complete the appropriate form and submit it to the Records and Registration Office by the deadline. If you quit attending class without completing the appropriate forms your grade will become an “F”. The final grade will be based on the following scale: **A**(90-100), **B**(80-89), **C**(70-79), **D**(60-69), **F**(below 60)

**Note:** It is the sole responsibility of the student to make certain that all work submitted online has been successfully received, processed and recorded. Routinely check your grades on the website. It is not the responsibility of the instructor to inform students that an assignment has not been received by a deadline.

**Prerequisite:** MAT 080 or MAT 090 or placement

**Corequisite:** MAT 161 – WN12

**Textbook:** Blitzer, *College Algebra*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed.

**Course Goal:** Upon completion, students should be able to solve problems, apply critical thinking, work in teams, and communicate effectively.

**Course Specific Competencies:** Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- Solve applications involving polynomial equations and inequalities.
- Solve applications involving rational equations and inequalities.
- Solve applications involving exponential and logarithmic functions.
- Solve applications involving graphing and data analysis/modeling techniques.
- Work in teams and communicate mathematics effectively.

**Reinforcement Experiences for General Education Cross-Curriculum Competencies**

The course encapsulates reinforcement experiences for the general education cross-curriculum competencies:

- Communicate effectively in speaking, writing, reading, and listening.
- Locate, evaluate, and use information to analyze problems and make logical decisions.
- Apply math skills and/or natural science knowledge appropriately to organize, analyze and make information useful.
- Develop the ability to succeed as a self-directed learner.

**Tobacco Free Campus  
Policy Statement  
August 1, 2007**

Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College is committed to providing students and employees with a safe and healthy environment.

*It is the policy of Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College that tobacco use is not permitted on A-B Tech's campuses. A-B Tech is tobacco-free.*

**Academic Dishonest:** You may not deceive any official of the college by cheating on any assignment, exam, or paper. This includes plagiarism, which is the intentional theft or unacknowledged use of another's words or ideas. Plagiarism includes (but is not limited to) paraphrasing or summarizing another's words **or works** without proper acknowledgement, using direct quotes of material without proper acknowledgement, or purchasing or using a paper **or presentation** written **or produced** by another. The faculty at A-B Tech **may** also consider presenting as original work a paper written for one class to satisfy a requirement in another class to be academic dishonesty.

**Other Information:** Tutoring in math and related courses is available in the Academic Learning Center, Ferguson Building, Room 118. The hours are from 9 am-6:30 pm M-Th, and 10 am-1:00 pm on Friday.

## **MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT STATEMENT:**

Dear Student,

Welcome to the Mathematics Department!

We look forward to working with you and providing you with the very best education in mathematics.

We are a seven-member team that boasts a combined experience of over one-hundred-fifty years in professional education. We are extremely proud of our services and our accomplishments, and we always strive to maintain the best of quality instruction and as well as adherence to high academic standards and goals. Because of this dedication, we enjoy an excellent academic reputation with the surrounding upper-division colleges and universities in the region. It is a high priority to maintain this reputation, and consequently the value of your degree.

In order to be successful in your Math class and to ensure that other students have the learning environment they deserve, we require that you adhere to the Code of Student Conduct located in your Student Handbook, and on your syllabus. A positive learning environment makes it much easier for any student to achieve their goals.

If it is necessary for you to discuss any personal issue with your instructor, it is imperative that you do so during their office hours or during an out of class appointment.

We are happy to meet with you to talk about any issue that is relevant to your participation in class, or your grade in the course. We have appropriate and time-proven suggestions that should help you.

As a student at AB-Tech, it is expected that you to keep up with the class, turn in assignments on time, and take responsibility for your education. The instructor will assist you in every way possible that does not compromise the integrity of the course itself. Our reputation depends on it.

Again, Welcome to AB-Tech and have a great semester!

R. Trent Codd, Jr.; Chairman; AA, BS, BSCS, MA, EASGC; 38 years of experience

Jerry L. Ashe; Instructor; AA, BS, MS; 22 years of experience

Jackie Caldwell; Instructor; BS, MA; 20 years of experience

Karma Crouch; Instructor; BS, MA Ed; 23 years of experience

Valerie Martin; Instructor; AA, BA, MS; 8 years of experience

Tammy Pagan; Instructor; AA, BS, MS; 20 years of experience

Robby Webb; Instructor; BA, MA; 23 years of experience

### **Email Policy:**

The ABTech student email is to be used for official school business. The format for student emails is: [firstnamemiddleinitiallastname@students.abtech.edu](mailto:firstname.middleinitial.lastname@students.abtech.edu)

All emails should start with the following information:

Class:

Class Section:

Student ID:

Official Student Roster Name:

## **NETIQUETTE STATEMENT:**

### **GENERAL:**

- 1. Understand that typed messages lack cues normally associated with face-to-face conversation.  
Without these supporting cues for context, satire or sarcasm can come across in unintended ways.**
- 2. Use parenthetical explanation to explain meanings that might be misunderstood.**
- 3. Do not criticize spelling or grammar but do check your own spelling, punctuation, and grammar.**
- 4. Don't use all capital letters. In the online world, this is the equivalent of shouting and it is difficult to read.**
- 5. All lowercase letters indicate mumbling.**
- 6. Be brief and to the point.**

### **SUBJECT LINES:**

- 1. Keep subject lines short.**
- 2. Make subject lines informative by indicating the content of the message.**
- 3. Make subject lines clear and unambiguous.**

### **REPLYING:**

- 1. If you excessively reply to ongoing discussions and include the original message, your messages will be very long and hard to follow.**
- 2. For simple messages, quoting the original message when replying will clarify your response.**
- 3. Using carets to indicate lines of text that are quoted.**

### **EMAIL:**

- 1. Unless you are explicitly given permission, don't publicly post email sent to you in private.**
- 2. Recognize that instant delivery of email does not guarantee an instant response.**
- 3. If you are sending information from another source, pay attention to whether the material is copyrighted and cite sources.**
- 4. For important messages, compose a draft in a word processor so you can spell check it.**
- 5. Be careful when addressing emails. One character out of place, or a ".com" suffix when the person's email really ends with ".edu", and your message won't be delivered.**
- 6. If it is going to take considerable time to reply fully, try to acknowledge receipt of a message promptly and let the sender know that you will answer.**

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Do not send huge attachments.
2. When you're replying to a message that has an attachment, do not include the attachment again.
3. Avoid sending attached files that lack filename extensions (that's because some computers won't be able to open them).

### **FLAMING:**

1. Do not flame! Flaming refers to derogatory, abusive, threatening, sarcastic, rude, or otherwise mean-spirited messages directed at people.
2. If a message provokes a negative emotional response, put it away for a while, then reread it and see if you're misinterpreting it. If you don't understand a particular item, ask the sender for clarification before replying to an incorrect conclusion.
3. Messages are not secure. Remember, it's very easy for someone else to forward messages you thought were confidential.
4. Apologize. If there's been a misunderstanding or miscommunication, you can often nip a flame war in the bud by a brief apology.
5. Don't write anything that you won't want other people to be able to see for a long time (posts can be archived for years).

### **DISCUSSION:**

1. Lurk before you leap. Lurking is visiting without participating. While it's rude to make a habit of lurking, a little lurking can acquaint you with rules and procedures, help you get the "lay of the land," and prevent embarrassment.
2. Avoid posting non-informative messages on bulletin boards. Chat is more like a telephone, so saying "Me, too!" or "I don't know" is accepted. But on bulletin boards, people don't like to read postings that aren't substantive.

### **CHAT:**

1. Remember that chat rooms are "logged" (i.e., a record is kept of conversations).
2. Do not disrupt chat rooms by pasting large blocks of text into the input box (thus causing the screen to scroll faster than other users are able to type) or otherwise act in a manner that negatively affects other users' ability to engage in real time exchanges.
3. If you are having a conversation that is off the main topic, please move to another chat room.
4. If you are a fast typist, please pause occasionally to let slower typists contribute to the discussion.

\*Please note this Netiquette statement was inserted as a requirement of the Mathematics Department at ABTech. The author of Netiquette is Robert Bramucci from California State University at Fullerton

**Statement of Right to Make Changes:** I reserve the right to make changes in the syllabus. Any changes will be announced in class.

**SYLLABUS**  
**MAT 161A o12**  
**COLLEGE ALGEBRA LAB**  
**Spring 2009 - Cushman**

**Your Acknowledgement:**

I have been provided access to the course syllabus, understand what is expected of me, and agree with the provision set forth in the syllabus.

---

Print Name

---

Student I.D. Number

---

Signature

---

Date