

**SYLLABUS  
MAT 171A  
PRE-CALCULUS ALGEBRA LAB  
SPRING 2009**

**Faculty Information**

**Instructor:** Marilyn Minchey, M.A. Math. Ed.  
**Email Address:** [mminchey@abtech.edu](mailto:mminchey@abtech.edu)  
**Office:** ELM 340  
**Phone:** 254-1921 ext. 219  
**Office Hours:** M (5:00 – 5:50); TTh (10:15-10:45); F (12:15-12:45)

**Course Information**

**Course Title:** Pre-Calculus Algebra Lab  
**Course Number:** MAT-171A-05  
**Credit Hours:** 1  
**Contact Hours:** 2  
**Online Contact:** TTH (1:00-1:45)

**Course Description:** This course is a laboratory for MAT 171. 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.

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

**Corequisite:** MAT 171-WN5

**Textbook:** Sullivan & Sullivan, *Algebra and Trigonometry Enhanced with Graphing Utilities*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition.

**Course ID:** minchey10933

**Calculator:** A graphing calculator is required for this course. The TI-83 or TI-84 will be the calculator used by the instructor.

**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, students will be able to:

- Solve applications involving polynomial equations and inequalities.
- Solve applications involving rational equations and inequalities.
- Work in teams and communicate mathematics effectively.
- Use a graphing calculator to solve applications involving graphing and data analysis/modeling techniques.

**Reinforcement Experiences for General Education Cross-Curriculum Competencies:** The course includes 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.

**Grading Policy:** Your grade will be based on lab assignments and weekly quizzes. Quizzes will be posted on Tuesday of each week and you will have 1 week to complete the assignment(quiz). Labs will be available at the completion of each section. **Make-up labs and quizzes will not be given.** *Once you begin your quiz, you will only have 40 minutes to complete it.* The quiz content will come from the previous week's lecture and the skill building exercises from the text- see MAT 171 WN5 Syllabus. **YOU MUST COMPLETE THE QUIZ ONCE YOU HAVE STARTED IT.** You will not be able to restart a quiz.

Your lowest lab and quiz grade will be dropped before calculating your final average. Your quizzes will account for 50% of your final grade. Your labs will also account for 50% of your final grade. There will not be a final exam in MAT 171A.

It is your responsibility to ensure that your labs and quizzes have been successfully submitted, received and processed. Current grade information is available with the software used for labs and quizzes.

If for any reason it is necessary for a student to withdraw from this class, the appropriate form must be completed and submitted to the Records and Registration Office by the deadline. If a student quits attending class without completing the appropriate forms, his/her grade will become an "F". Final grades will be based on the college grading scale: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69), F (below 60).

**Attendance Policy:** To receive course credit, a student is required to meet the following: (1) on-line contact may not lapse for more than two weeks, (2) there must be a minimum of two logins each week, and (3) a student may not miss more than two consecutive assignment due dates. A violation of even one of these requirements may put the student in jeopardy of being dropped at the discretion of the teacher with a grade of "U". (Refer to page 74 of your student handbook.)

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

**Academic Dishonesty:** Students may not deceive any official of the college by cheating on any assignment, exam or paper. This includes plagiarism.

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

## Spring Semester - 2009

Registration: Current and Continuing Students	December 1 - 5
General Registration	December 8 - January 2***
Last Day to Pay Tuition and Fees	January 2*
<i>* Unpaid registrations will be deleted from the computer registration system at 4:30 p.m.</i>	
Late Registration	January 5 - 9
Last Day to Pay Tuition and Fees for Late Registration	January 9*
<i>* Unpaid registrations will be deleted from the computer registration system at 4:30 p.m.</i>	
New Student Welcome	January 9, 9:00 a.m.
Classes Begin	12-Jan
Schedule Adjustments	January 12 - 13
Minimester I	January 12 - March 9
Martin Luther King Jr. Day College Holiday	19-Jan
Late Start Semester First Class Day	20-Jan
Last Day to Drop for a Partial Refund (Full term)	22-Jan
Professional Development - 1/2 Day	17-Feb
Last Day to Apply for Spring Graduation	27-Feb
Minimester II	March 10 - May 12
Student Break or Inclement Weather Make-Up	13-Mar
Last Day to Withdraw from a full 16-week class	7-Apr
Spring College Holiday	13-Apr
Student Spring Break	April 13 - April 18
Last Day of Class/Examinations	May 12**
<i>** May 12 will be scheduled as a Friday make-up day</i>	
Spring Graduation	15-May
Total Class Days	80
<i>** Up to three days may be made up at the end of the semester or during spring break for inclement weather.</i>	
<i>***In person when college is open and when online registration is operational.</i>	

## Netiquette

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.

## 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).

#### **Discussions**

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.

**California State University at Fullerton**  
Excerpted from Bramucci, Robert. Cal State Fullerton.

### **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.*

**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 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**

**Marilyn Minchey; Adjunct Instructor; BS, MA; 30 years of experience**

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**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.**

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**Print Name**

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**Student I.D. Number**

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**Signature**

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**Date**