**MATH 040x: Basic Mathematical Skills**

**Units: 4.0**

**Spring 2020 • Monday–Friday • 9:00–9:50am**

**Location:** KAP 167

**Instructor: Peter Kagey**

**Office Hours:** Every weekday from 8–8:50 and Thursday from 4–5.

**Location:** KAP 403

**Email address:** [kagey@usc.edu](mailto:kagey@usc.edu)

**Email policy:** I will try to respond to emails immediately on Monday–Friday from 8am–6pm. Please follow up if you do not get a response within one business day.

**Personal cell phone:** 503.810.6537 (please use email, except in urgent situations)

**Teaching Assistant: Thejani Gamage**

**Office Hours:** Monday 1–3pm, Tuesday 10–11am, Wednesday 12–2pm.

**Location:** Math Center (KAP 263)

**Email address:** [gamage@usc.edu](mailto:gamage@usc.edu)

**Text**

Intermediate Algebra by Elayn Martin-Gay

ISBN-13: 978-0134196176

**Course Description**

This course is intended to be a review of algebra, including but not limited to: real numbers, linear equations and inequalities, functions, graphs, systems of equations, exponents, polynomials, factoring, rational expressions, radicals, quadratic equations and solutions.

**Learning Objectives**

This course should help develop the mathematical skills necessary to prepare students for MATH 108g (Contemporary Precalculus), MATH 114xg (Foundations of Statistics), and MATH 117g (Introduction to Mathematics for Business and Economics)

**Description and Assessment of Assignments**

Homework will be assigned on a weekly basis, and will be discussed during the Tuesday/Thursday discussion sections.

**Grading Breakdown**

Participation will be based on asking or answering at least one question each week during lecture or discussion.

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| --- | --- |
| **Assessment** | **% of Grade** |
| Participation | 15% |
| Homework | 50% |
| Quizzes | 15% |
| Midterm | 10% |
| Final | 10% |
| **TOTAL** | 100% |

**Grading Scale**

This class is graded CR/NC (credit or no credit). Students will receive a CR if they receive a 60% or above.

**Assessment Due Dates**

Weekly homework will be collected in lecture on Friday, and quizzes will occur on Tuesdays at the end of discussion. There will be no quizzes or homework during weeks that an exam is scheduled.

**Assignment Submission Policy**

Homework deadline extensions are possible upon arrangement with me up to 3 times a semester, and at most once per HW. If you decide to request an extension from me, there will be no grading penalty if the HW is submitted within a couple days—I'll set a more precise deadline each request. *Beyond this, late homework will not be accepted.*

**Grading Timeline**

Homework, quizzes, and exams should be graded within one week of their due dates.

**Additional Policies**

The two lowest homework scores and two lowest quiz scores will be dropped. Please let me know if you will be absent from lecture or discussion. All students are allowed to re-take quizzes in office hours within two weeks of when they receive their quizzes back. Students who missed a quiz due to an unexcused absence will not be allowed to take that quiz in office hours.

**Online resources**

* [Khan Academy](https://www.khanacademy.org/math/algebra) contains videos related to every topic that we will be covering in this course.
* [WolframAlpha](https://www.wolframalpha.com/) is a powerful online calculator, with support for algebra.

**Course Schedule: A Weekly Breakdown**

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Topics/Daily Activities** | **Deliverables** |
| Week 1 | Introduction | Class Survey |
| Week 2 | Real Numbers | Midterm Preview |
| Week 3 | Linear equations | Homework |
| Week 4 | Inequalities | Homework |
| Week 5 | Functions | Homework |
| Week 6 | Graphs | Homework |
| Week 7 | Systems of equations | Corrected Preview + Midterm Exam |
| Week 8 | Exponents/scientific notation | Final Exam Preview |
| Week 9 | Radicals | Homework |
| **Spring break** | | |
| Week 10 | Polynomials/Rational expressions | Homework |
| Week 11 | Factoring/Quadratic equations | Homework |
| Week 12 | Geometry | Homework |
| Week 13 | Combinatorics | Homework |
| Week 14 | Special Topics | Homework |
| Week 15 | Review | USC Learning Experience Evaluation |
| FINAL | [Friday, May 8th 8–10am](https://classes.usc.edu/term-20201/finals/) | |

**Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems**

**Academic Conduct:**

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” [policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b](https://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b/). Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, [policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct](http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct).

**Support Systems:**

*Counseling and Mental Health - (213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call*

[studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling](https://studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling/)

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

*National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1 (800) 273-8255 – 24/7 on call*

[suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/)

Free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

*Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention and Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-9355(WELL), press “0” after hours – 24/7 on call*

[studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault](https://studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault/)

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

*Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)- (213) 740-5086 | Title IX – (213) 821-8298*

[equity.usc.edu](https://equity.usc.edu/), [titleix.usc.edu](http://titleix.usc.edu)

Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants. The university prohibits discrimination or harassment based on the following *protected characteristics*: race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, physical disability, medical condition, mental disability, marital status, pregnancy, veteran status, genetic information, and any other characteristic which may be specified in applicable laws and governmental regulations. The university also prohibits sexual assault, non-consensual sexual contact, sexual misconduct, intimate partner violence, stalking, malicious dissuasion, retaliation, and violation of interim measures.

*Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment - (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298*

[usc-advocate.symplicity.com/care\_report](https://usc-advocate.symplicity.com/care_report/)

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office of Equity and Diversity |Title IX for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

*The Office of Disability Services and Programs - (213) 740-0776*

[dsp.usc.edu](http://dsp.usc.edu/)

Support and accommodations for students with disabilities. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs.

*Campus Support & Intervention - (213) 821-4710*

[campussupport.usc.edu](https://campussupport.usc.edu/)

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

*Diversity at USC - (213) 740-2101*

[diversity.usc.edu](https://diversity.usc.edu/)

Information on events, programs and training, the Provost’s Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

*USC Emergency - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call*

[dps.usc.edu](http://dps.usc.edu/), [emergency.usc.edu](http://emergency.usc.edu/)

Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

*USC Department of Public Safety - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-120 – 24/7 on call*

[dps.usc.edu](http://dps.usc.edu/)

Non-emergency assistance or information.