

# Beginning Algebra A Syllabus

2007 Fall Term: MWF 8:30–9:20, S 119

Textbook: “Plain Algebra” Thomas Vanden Eynden

## 1 Grading

10% **Homework:** All homework problems in the text will be turned in. These will be graded for completeness and organization. You are invited to highlight the five that you had the most trouble with.

10% **Homework Quiz:** In each class, you will have 10 minutes to do 5-10 problems similar to the homework. These will be graded for accuracy.

15%  
15%  
15%  
15%  
+20%  
100% **Exams:** There will be four exams during the term and a longer, comprehensive final exam. Each will be preceded by a review session, during which you are expected to ask questions and do problems.

**Grades:** Final grades will be reported as a percentage of the sum of the adjusted earned points. If at any time during the semester you are curious about your grade, I have an Excel worksheet which can printout a summary of your individual grades.

## 2 Policies

**Attendance:** Physical attendance is mandatory. Mental attendance is appreciated (not to mention helpful). If “something comes up,” contact me (note, email, voice mail, courier, same-day word-of-mouth) **before** class. I can be contacted via the information on this page.

**Atheletics:** It is your personal responsibility to inform me if you will miss class **before** you miss class, even if an email is being sent on your behalf. See me before or after class so that I can inform you of variations from the syllabus. It is your responsibility to inform me of incoming report cards before you bring them so that I can have a grade available.

**Late Policy:** No credit will be given for missed quizzes, unless previously arranged. Late homework loses 5 points per day (not per class period).

**Missed Exams:** Make up exams **must** be scheduled before regular exam time. Documented, unforeseen events will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

**Office Hour Policy** My schedule (with office hours) is posted by my office door. I prefer that you visit during office hours, but I am in my office most days from about 8:00am to about 4:30pm. You are welcome to stop by whenever you have a question.

**Expectations:** You are being compared to that subset of students who went on to college. I consider average among this group to be a C.

Grades are tied to numerical scores according to the criterion: “D” is *poor*, “C” is *good enough*, “B” is *well done*, “A” is *excellent*. After each exam, I will tell you where the borders are. The B/C boundary is usually near 78%. My best students usually score in the low 90’s. My worst in the 40’s.

**Disability Services:** For those with a documented physical or learning disability, please see Jim Ross, Coordinator for Academic Student Support Services, Administration Building Rm. 3325, (513) 344-3521.

## 3 Schedule

Labor Day			
<b>Test</b>	Fri	9/14	Chap 1
<b>Test</b>	Wed	10/10	Chap 2
Fall Break / Midterm			
<b>Test</b>	Fri	11/2	Chap 3
Thanksgiving			
<b>Test</b>	Fri	11/30	Chaps 4-5
<b>Final</b>	Mon	12/10	Chaps 1-5