

**Foundations of Mathematics I****OVERVIEW OF COURSE**

These sections (along with the corresponding spring sections) will prepare students to successfully complete the College Algebra course (which is a prerequisite for many other math courses). It will include a review of arithmetic and beginning algebra, the development of study skills, and many review sessions.

At the end of the fall semester, 3 credits will be awarded to students who successfully complete the course. A grade for the semester's work will also be given.

**ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS**

PRQ: Satisfactory performance on the Mathematics Placement.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS**

**Text:** MySlideNotes for Basic Math, Introductory and Intermediate Algebra, by Lial, Hornsby, McGinnis, ...

**Software:** MyMathLab access code

**Calculator:** A scientific, non-graphing, non-texting calculator is permitted and recommended. All other calculators are not allowed. It is the student's responsibility to supply an appropriate calculator.

**GRADES**

A maximum of 750 points may be earned in this course, distributed as follows:

Attendance (30 highest scores, 1 point each)	30
Homework (30 highest scores, 4 points each)	120
Quizzes (10 highest scores, 10 points each)	100
Exams (3 exams, 100 points each)	300
Final Exam	200
Sum	750

The final is a departmental, comprehensive exam. This mass final is given to all students at the same time in a room different from your regular classroom.

MML Bonus: For every perfect score after 30, you will earn a bonus of 4 points. For instance, if you have 32 perfect scores, your Homework point total will be 128 out of 120 points, 8 points extra credit.

**TENTATIVE GRADING SCALE**

Your grade will be based on your total out of 750 points. The cutoffs will be no higher than:

A: 675 (90%)      B: 600 (80%)      C: 487.5 (65%)      D: 412.5 (55%)

Your instructor may use the plus/minus grading system.

## EXPECTATIONS

It is impossible to overemphasize the importance of your active participation in this class. Every student is expected to:

1. Be present and on time for every class meeting. Attendance will be taken every day.
2. Check your NIU e-mail regularly for important announcements throughout the semester.
3. If your instructor requests, notify the instructor of any absence, preferably in advance.
4. Read the etext.
5. Review the previous lesson and do the MyMathLab homework assignments after each class. (Expect to spend at least 2 hours daily on math.) The assignments are due at 11:59PM.
6. Check your syllabus and preview the new material before coming to class. This will help you to better understand the lecture.
7. Bring your calculator to class every day.
8. Complete the MyMathLab assignments ahead of time (midnight).
9. Ask questions in class or after class of the instructor.
10. Get help when you need it—not just before an exam. Here are your primary sources for help:

Instructor

SI Leader

Other Students

ACCESS tutors and help sessions

Tutoring Centers (Grant South, New Residence Hall, Library)

## HOMEWORK

Homework assignments will be taken via MyMathLab. You can retry homework problems until you get them correct. The four lowest homework scores will be dropped. Since we drop the four lowest homework scores, no late homework will be accepted and no makeup homework will be allowed. Deadlines for homework assignments can be seen in MyMathLab and no late homework will be accepted.

The work you submit must be your own. Your work must be independently written and entered into MyMathLab. You are not allowed to use any additional online or third party resources that are not explicitly listed in the syllabus or provided by your instructor. You can re-work exercises, enter and exit your homework, and get back to it at a later time prior to the due date. If you rely on the MyMathLab learning aids or other help to get problems correct, you should rework the problem until you can get it correct without any help. Students who become overly dependent on the learning aids or other assistance to a score of 100% on the homework find that they score much lower on the exams.

## **ATTENDANCE**

You will receive attendance points for attending lecture. You must attend lecture for the full 50 minutes, take notes, pay attention, and stay awake in order to receive the attendance points. There are no makeups for attendance.

## **MAKEUPS**

The official course policy is that there are no makeup homework assignments, attendance, or quizzes. Your instructor may modify THIS policy. Make-up exams will be given ONLY for an excused absence, a documented illness or serious emergency. It is YOUR responsibility to contact your instructor before the scheduled date of the exam for an excused absence. Documentation may be requested by your instructor. If there is a documented illness or serious emergency, inform your instructor via email within 48 hours. Speak with your instructor in their next available office hour to talk about the absence and arrange a time to take the makeup exam. No one is entitled to a makeup exam.

## **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

Academic honesty and mutual respect (student with student and instructor with student) are expected in this course. Mutual respect means being on time for class and not leaving early, being prepared to give full attention to class work, not reading newspapers or other material in class, not using cell phones or pagers during class time, and not looking at another student's work during exams or quizzes. The use of third party websites to complete work is academic misconduct. Academic misconduct, as defined by the Student Code of Conduct, will not be treated lightly.

**Failure to abide by the following will result in a zero score!**

- PDA's, cell phones and computers shall be stowed and not be visible during exams.
- Talking or other communication between students is not permitted during exams.

## **ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT**

If you need an accommodation for this class, please contact the Disability Resource Center as soon as possible. The DRC coordinates accommodations for students with disabilities. It is located on the 4th floor of the Health Services Building, and can be reached at 815-753- 1303 (V) or [drc@niu.edu](mailto:drc@niu.edu). Also, please contact me privately as soon as possible so we can discuss your accommodations. The sooner you let us know your needs, the sooner we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

## **PREFERRED GENDER PRONOUN STATEMENT**

This course affirms people of all gender expressions and gender identities. If you prefer to be called a different name than what is on the class roster, please let me know. Please also inform me and feel free to correct me and your classmates on your preferred gender pronouns. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak with me in person, or email me. The Gender and Sexuality Resource Center also has a webpage designed to help support people of all genders as they navigate NIU's system:

<http://niu.edu/gsrc/audience/trans.shtml>.

## **STUDENT SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY**

Title IX prohibits sex discrimination to include sexual misconduct: harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can receive confidential support and advocacy at the Counseling & Consultation Service's Advocacy Services, which can be contacted at 815-753-1206, or in Campus Life Building – room 200. Alleged violations can be reported non-confidentially to the Affirmative Action & Equity Compliance Office in Lowden Hall – room 101, at 815-753-1118, or online at <http://www.niu.edu/sexualmisconduct/help/form.shtml>. Reports to law enforcement can be made to NIU Police & Public Safety at 815-753-1212. For an emergency, call 911. For more information about Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Resources, visit <http://niu.edu/sexualmisconduct/index.shtml>. Note: As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. I also have a mandatory reporting responsibility related to my role as an instructor and a faculty advisor to a student organization. I am required to share information regarding sexual misconduct or information about a crime that may have occurred on NIU's campus with the University. Students may speak to someone confidentially by contacting Counseling & Consultation Service's Advocacy Services at 815 – 753 – 1206, or in Campus life Building – room 200.