

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. It is required that each student sign up for the course in the following spring semester. Note, this course continues in the text Basic Math, Introductory and Intermediate Algebra, and each student earning a passing grade will again be awarded 3 credits for that semester's work.

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 device that was purchased as solely a calculator, except a TI-Nspire. Your section may be a "No Calculator" section as determined by your instructor.

GRADES

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

MySlideNotes/Attendance (30 highest scores, 2 points each)	60
Homework (30 highest scores, 3 points each)	90
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. These room assignments are made after exam 2.

MML Bonus: For every perfect score after 30, you will earn a bonus of 3 points. For instance, if you have 32 perfect scores, your Homework point total will be 96 out of 90 points, 6 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.

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. 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.

MAKEUPS

The official course policy is that there are no makeup 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 office the next day to talk about the absence and arrange a time to take the makeup exam. No one is entitled to a makeup exam.

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. Bring the appropriate portion of the MySlideNotes to class every day.
3. Check your NIU e-mail regularly for important announcements throughout the semester.
4. Notify the instructor of any absence, preferably in advance, ESPECIALLY, for a Friday.
4. Read the etext.
5. Review the previous lesson and do the MyMathLab (MML) homework assignments after each class. (Expect to spend at least 2 hours daily on math.) The assignments are due midnights on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays.
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

PAL tutor

Other Students

ACCESS tutors and help sessions

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

NOTICE FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

NIU abides by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which mandates reasonable accommodations be provided for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability and may require some type of instructional and/or examination accommodation, please contact your instructor early in the semester so that we can provide or facilitate in providing accommodations you may need.

If you have not already done so, you will need to register with the [Disability Resource Center \(DRC\)](#), the designated office on campus to provide services and administer exams with accommodations for students with disabilities. The DRC office is located on the 4th floor of the University Health Services building (815 753-1303). Your instructor is looking forward to talking with you soon to learn how s/he may be helpful in enhancing your academic success in this course.

SCHEDULE

WEEK	DATES	SECTIONS	TOPICS
1	August 28	Intro, 11.1	Exponents, Order of Operations, and Inequality
	30	11.2	Variables, Expressions, and Equations
	September 1	11.3	Real Numbers and the Number Line
2	September 4	OFF	No School
	6	11.4, 11.5, 11.6	Adding, Subtracting, and Multiplying Real Numbers
	8	11.6	Dividing Real Numbers
3	September 11	11.7	Properties of Real Numbers
	13	11.8	Simplifying Expressions
	15	12.1	The Addition Property of Equality
4	September 18	12.2	The Multiplication Property of Equality
	20	12.3	More on Solving Linear Equations
	22	12.4	An Introduction to Applications of Linear Equations
5	September 25	12.4	
	27	Review	
	29	Exam 1	
6	October 2	12.5	Formulas and Additional Applications from Geometry
	4	12.5/12.6	Ratio, Proportion, and Percent
	6	12.6	
7	October 9	12.7	Solving Linear Inequalities
	11	12.7/13.1	Linear Equations in Two Variables
	13	13.1	The Rectangular Coordinate System

WEEK	DATES	SECTIONS	TOPICS
8	October 16	13.2	Graphing Linear Equations in Two Variables
	18	Review	
	20	Exam 2	
9	October 23	13.3	The Slope of a Line
	25	13.3/13.4	Writing and Graphing Equations of Lines
	27	13.4	
10	October 30	13.6/13.7	Intro to Relations and Functions/Function Notation
	November 1	14.1	Solving Systems of Linear Equations by Graphing
	3	14.2	Solving Systems of Linear Equations by Substitution
11	November 6	14.3	Solving Systems of Linear Equations by Elimination
	8	15.1	Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
	10	15.2	The Product Rule and Power Rules for Exponents
12	November 13	15.3	Multiplying Polynomials
	15	15.4	Special Products
	17	Review	
13	November 20	Exam 3	
	22	OFF	No School
	24	OFF	No School
14	November 27	15.5	Integer Exponents and the Quotient Rule
	29	15.6/15.7	Dividing a Polynomial by a Monomial
	December 1	15.7	Dividing a Polynomial by a Polynomial
15	December 4	15.8	An Application of Exponents: Scientific Notation
	6	Review for Final Exam	
	8	Review for Final Exam	

FINAL EXAM – TUESDAY, December 12, 8:00-9:50 a.m.