

# VICTOR VALLEY COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS

## FALL 2008

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Course No.: Math 50 Course Title: Elementary Algebra Units: 4  
Section No.: 21334 Class Hours: 3:20-5:00PM  
Days: MW Room No.: LA13  
Instructor Name: Ed Fink Telephone : (760)951-1677  
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### FALL CALENDAR

Instruction Begins	August 25
Labor Day Holiday (no classes)	September 1
Veteran's Day Holiday (no classes)	November 10
Thanksgiving Holidays (no classes)	November 27-29
Fall Semester Ends	December 13

### WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Last day  
to withdraw from  
semester length class  
and receive a "W" is  
November 4.

**NOTE - Classes will not be held on the following dates:  
Monday, September 1, Monday, November 10, and Thursday through  
Saturday, November 27 - November 29.**

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**Prerequisite:** Math 10 or Math 12 with a grade of "C" or better, or eligibility as determined by VVC assessment test.

**Textbook:** Introductory Algebra(10<sup>th</sup> edition) by Bittinger, published by Addison-Wesley(2007) and a supplement MyMathLab which is recommended. This textbook can be purchased new bundled with MyMathLab at no extra charge. If you purchase a used textbook, MyMathLab can be purchases online. If buying the book is a financial burden, contact EOPS. They have some funds available for this.

**Required Materials:** notebook to hold notes and rectangular graph paper; a scientific calculator or graphing calculator is optional(a graphing calculator, any TI model, is recommended for pre-calculus students)

**Course Description:** Topics covered include: signed number arithmetic, square roots, order of operations, algebraic expressions, solving equations and inequalities, factoring, graphs of linear equations, and solving systems of linear equations.

**Course goals and/or objectives:**(brief statements about what a student should know or be able to do as a direct result of this class)

1. Be able to add, subtract, multiply and divide integers and rational numbers. Identify terms of an expression, collect like terms, simplify algebraic expressions.
2. Be able to identify polynomials: add, subtract, divide and factor polynomials with one or more variables.
3. Be able to set up and solve 1<sup>st</sup> degree equations and inequalities with one and two unknowns.
4. Be able to add, subtract, multiply, divide and simplify fractional expressions. Be able to set up and solve fractional equations.
5. Be able to add, subtract, multiply, divide, factor and simplify radical expressions. Be able to solve for sides of right angle triangles.

**Attendance Policy:** Regular attendance and timely completion of homework are very important in this class. You are expected to attend class for the entire time the class is in session; students who leave early will be considered tardy. A student who misses more than four hours of class or accumulates more than four tardies may be dropped; however, it is your personal responsibility to complete add/drop forms. If you stop attending without dropping, you risk a failing grade.

**Homework:** In addition to attending class you need to plan on spending about eight hours per week on homework. Homework assignments are due on the day of next test as shown on the attached lesson plan. Late homework can be turned in up to and including the last day before the final exam. Most of the problems assigned have the answers in the book, so that you may check as you work. To receive credit, assignments must show your work; credit will not be given for answers only. You may use a calculator on homework with involved calculations. It is recommended that the reading assignments be accomplished in two phases. Scan through assigned sections in textbook for an introduction to new concepts and methods before the lecture. After the lecture study carefully all of the pertinent examples in the textbook.

**Visitors/Children:** Visitors are permitted if the instructor is notified before the class they desire to attend. If you have children needs, go to the Child Development Center. If you show up in class with your child, you will not be permitted to attend class. This is a college policy.

**Exam Make-up Policy:** You are expected to take the 7 tests and final exam as scheduled. If you must miss a test, submit a written request for make-up to the instructor prior to your absence. Tests taken after the class test date have a maximum grade of 75%. When allowed, testing is done at the LC(Learning Center)by appointment ONLY and must be within one week of the original test date.

STUDENT EVALUATION CRITERIA

Qizzes/Tests	7 chapter tests	% of total points	55%
Projects, papers, etc.		% or points	
Mid-term exam		% or points	
Final exam	(comprehensive)	% of total points	30%
Other	(participation, homework, attendance, etc.)		
Homework		% of total points	10%
Homework Q&A		% of total points	5%
Grading Scale	Percentages are obtained from an adjusted distribution curve with the 100% point taken as the highest points in the class, not the total possible points.		
85 - 100%	A		
70 - 84%	B		
50 - 69%	C		
30 - 49%	D		
Below 30	F		

Comments/Other Ground Rules:

Regardless of other grades, the final exam is a course requirement. You must take it to pass. No points are given for attendance per se. All changes to schedule will be announced in class. Depending on student interest, office consultations on how to forecast your grade will be offered throughout the semester.

**Classroom Behavior:** When you are in this class, you should pay attention and take notes, as appropriate. The classroom environment requires consideration and respect for up to 45 other people. Feel free to ask questions in class, but do this in such a manner that everyone can hear and benefit from the question and answer. This is preferable to limited communication within a small group. In keeping with this manner of communication cell phones should be turned off during class.

**Help:** Bring questions on homework problems to class for discussion. If you have difficulty, the Learning Center has more than 40 tutors available to students. There are video tapes available in the library to supplement the textbook. All of these services are provided free by the college. However, you must be personally responsible for coming forward and using help as needed. In addition an interactive tutorial MyMathLab can be acquired for use by my students on the web.

**Tests:** Tests will consist of information covered in lectures,

textbook readings and homework. Tests are closed book, closed notebook and non-calculator assisted. This is math department policy. Students are expected to show academic honesty while taking a test.

## WEEKLY LESSON PLAN

Week	Topic - Sections	Homework Assignment - odd exercises *	Assessment
1	1.1,1.2,1.3,1.4	1.1: 1-55 1.2: 1-73 1.3: 1-77 1.4: 1-99	Pretest
2	1.5,1.6,1.7	1.5: 1-81 1.6: 1-67 1.7: 1-117	
3	1.8,2.1,2.2,2.3	1.8: 1-81 2.1: 1-51 2.2: 1-39 2.3: 1-91	Test 1
4	2.4,2.5,2.6,2.7	2.4: 1-47 2.5: 1-55 2.6: 1-35 2.7: 1-83	
5	2.8,3.1,3.2,3.3	2.8: 1-49 3.1: 1-61 3.2: 1-59 3.3: 1-55	Test 2
6	3.4,3.5,3.6,3.7	3.4: 1-31 3.5: 1-29 3.6: 1-27 3.7: 1-27	
7	4.1,4.2,4.3,4.4	4.1: 1-111 4.2: 1-95 4.3: 1-101 4.4: 1-63	Test 3
8	4.5,4.6,4.7,4.8	4.5: 1-73 4.6: 1-99 4.7: 1-79 4.8: 1-41	
9	5.1,5.2,5.3,5.4	5.1: 1-51 5.2: 1-63 5.3: 1-75 5.4: 1-93	Test 4
10	5.5,5.6,5.7,5.8,	5.5: 1-87	

	6.1	5.6: 1-77 5.7: 1-66 5.8: 1-35 6.1: 1-69	
11	6.2,6.3,6.4,6.5, 6.6	6.2: 1-35 6.3: 1-39 6.4: 1-59 6.5: 1-53 6.6: 1-49	Test 5
12	6.7,6.8,6.9	6.7: 1-55 6.8: 1-31 6.9: 1-40	
13	7.1,7.2,7.3,7.4, 7.5	7.1: 1-25 7.2: 1-33 7.3: 1-35 7.4: 1-37 7.5: 1-14	Test 6
14	8.1,8.2,8.3,8.4, 8.5	8.1: 1-65 8.2: 1-85 8.3: 1-79 8.4: 1-63 8.5: 1-49	Test 7
15	8.6,9.1,9.2,9.3	8.6: 1-27 9.1: 1-65 9.2: 1-57 9.3: 1-41	
16	Review Final Exam		December 10 at 3:20 PM

\* Even applications problems related to a student's major field of study may be substituted for odd applications problems assigned.