

**East Los Angeles College**  
**Department of Mathematics**  
**Math 115 Elementary Algebra (5 Units)**  
**Winter 2012 - Syllabus**

**Instructor Information:**

**Instructor:** Gabriel Castro

**Office:** The Math Lab K5 - 104(Main Campus) or Math Lab at South Gate

**Email:** [gcastromath@yahoo.com](mailto:gcastromath@yahoo.com)

**Office Phone Number:** (323) 267-3765

**Instructor's Website:** [www.gcastromath.com](http://www.gcastromath.com)

**Office Hours:** Monday - Thursday 12:35 - 1:35pm in the classroom.

If you would like to make an appointment, please email me.

**Course Information:**

**Section:** 8018

**Classroom:** South Gate - Room 101

**Class Time:** Monday - Thursday, 8:00 - 12:35pm

**Prerequisite:**

Satisfactory completion of Mathematics 110, 112 or acceptable level of skill as demonstrated in the mathematics placement process.

**Course Description:**

This course covers the fundamentals of beginning algebra. The topics presented include signed numbers, evaluation of algebraic expressions, exponents, solving equations, polynomials, factoring, rational expressions, graphs, systems of equations, inequalities, topics in geometry, and applications.

**Suggested Course Outline:**

**Unit #1**

Chapter 1: Introduction to Algebraic Expressions - 1.5 days

Chapter 2: Equations, Inequalities, and Problem Solving - 2.5 days

**Unit #2**

Chapter 3: Introduction to Graphing - 2.5 days

Chapter 8: Systems of Linear Equations and Problem Solving - 1 day

8.1 Systems of Equations in Two Variables

8.2 Solving by Substitution or Elimination

8.3 Solving Applications: Systems of Two Equations

Chapter 9: Inequalities and Problem Solving - 0.5 days

9.4 Inequalities in Two Variables

**Unit #3**

Chapter 4: Polynomials - 2 days

Chapter 5: Polynomials and Factoring - 2 days

Simplifying Radicals, Square root method & the Quadratic Formula - 0.5 days

**Unit #4**

Chapter 6: Rational Expressions and Equations - 2 days

Parabolas & Completing the Square - 1 day

**Course Materials:**

**Required Online Component:** My Math Lab via [www.coursecompass.com](http://www.coursecompass.com)

**My Math Lab Course ID:** castro42658

**Text:** Elementary & Intermediate Algebra, Concepts & Applications Fifth edition, by Bittinger or

Elementary & Intermediate Algebra, Concepts & Applications Third edition for East Los Angeles College, by Bittinger

**Calculator:** Scientific calculator is recommended, but not required. Calculators are **not allowed** during exams or quizzes.

**Grading:**

Online Homework:	10%
Online Unit Exams (4):	8%
Green Book Projects (4):	8%
Quizzes:	10%
Unit Exams:	
Exam #1:	7%
Exam #2:	9%
Exam #3:	10%
Exam #4:	8%
Comprehensive Final:	30%

A = 90% – 100%

B = 80% – 89%

C = 70% – 79%

D = 60% – 69%

F = 0% – 59%

**Student Learning Outcome (SLO):**

After successfully completing Math 115, the student will be able to

- 1.) Solve a quadratic equation by method of factoring.
  
- 2.) Given a linear equation in standard form, students will:
  - (a) Write the equation in slope-intercept form
  - (b) Determine the slope
  - (c) Determine the y-intercept
  - (d) Graph the equation

### **Attendance:**

Attendance is the student's responsibility. Students are expected to be present at every class meeting. Failure to attend class will result in missing valuable information. All students are solely responsible for coursework missed as a result of an absence. It is the student's responsibility to find out what they missed from their classmates. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class via a quiz. The instructor has the right to drop the student from the course if a student is absent at least three class meetings.

### **Online Homework:**

Homework assignments are posted on My Math Lab and have due dates. Assignments pertaining to their unit exam are due the day of the exam at 8:00am. Online homework assignment due dates will not be extended. No exceptions.

### **Online Unit Exams:**

Exams are posted on My Math Lab. Online Unit Exams are due at 8:00am, the day of the in-class exam. Students will have three opportunities to complete the online unit exam. With each opportunity, students will have 90 minutes to complete the assignment. Online Unit exam due dates will not be extended. No exceptions.

### **Green Book Projects:**

Green book assignments will be posted on My Math Lab. Each assignment will consist of exercises to supplement main topics from the unit. These assignments are due the day before the unit exam. Green Book assignments must be completed as follows:

- i. Neat
- ii. Legible
- iii. In order by exercise
- iv. If a pencil is used, then all apparent mistakes must be erased not scribbled over.
- v. If a pen is used, then all apparent mistakes must be covered with white-out not scribbled over.
- vi. Must be done in a Green Book.
- vii. Completed, to the best of the student's ability.

**(All exercises must be attempted)**

If a Green Book is not submitted in this manner, the student will receive a grade of zero for the assignment.

If a student does not submit a Green Book assignment, the student is not eligible to take the unit exam the next day. No Exceptions.

Green Book assignment due dates will not be extended. No Exceptions.

### **Quizzes:**

Quizzes will be given on a daily basis, twice a day. One quiz will be given at the beginning of class and one at the end of class. On the day of a unit exam, only one quiz will be given at the end of class. Some quizzes may be given online, but the instructor will inform you of an online quiz. The in-class quizzes must be completed as follows:

- i. Neat
- ii. Legible
- iii. In order
- iv. If a pencil is used, then all apparent mistakes must be erased not scribbled over.
- v. If a pen is used, then all apparent mistakes must be covered with white-out not scribbled over.

If a quiz is not submitted in this manner, the student will receive a grade of zero for the quiz.

Online quizzes are timed and students will have two opportunities to finish the assignment.

There are no make-up quizzes. No exceptions.

### **Unit Exams:**

There will be 4 Unit Exams which will be given in class. The units are stated in the suggested course outline. All unit exams are one hour in time.

All Unit Exams must be completed as follows:

- i. Neat
- ii. Legible
- iii. If a pencil is used, then all apparent mistakes must be erased not scribbled over.
- iv. If a pen is used, then all apparent mistakes must be covered with white-out not scribbled over.

If a Unit Exam is not submitted in this manner, the student will receive a grade of zero on the Unit Exam.

There are no make-up exams. No exceptions.

### **Final Exam Date & Time:**

Thursday, February 2, 2012, 9:00 - 12:00pm

### **Extra Credit:**

There is an opportunity to receive extra credit throughout the winter session; however, do not worry about extra credit. Each student needs to worry about all the points that are available for regular credit.

**\*Note: If any student mentions anything about extra credit, all students will lose the right to receive extra credit.**

### **Book Homework for extra credit:**

To be eligible to receive this extra credit, all online homework assignments must be completed with a score of at least 50%.

This homework is from the book. Assignments are posted on My Math Lab. In order to receive extra credit, on the day of a unit exam students are required to turn in these assignments. For example, on the day of unit exam #1, Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 must be turned in for extra credit.

A student will receive 10% added to their exam grade if **every problem** is completed (not a reproduction of the solutions manual) to the best of their ability.

All Extra Credit Homework must be completed as follows:

- i. Neat
- ii. Legible
- iii. In order
- iv. If a pencil is used, then all apparent mistakes must be erased not scribbled over.
- v. If a pen is used, then all apparent mistakes must be covered with white-out not scribbled over.
- vi. Submitted in a notebook.

If a student does not submit extra credit homework in this manner or if it is incomplete, the student will be deducted 10% from their unit exam score.

Extra Credit Homework assignment due dates will not be extended. No Exceptions.

### **Oral Unit Exam for extra credit:**

To be eligible to receive this extra credit, students are required to score an average of 50% on the respective online unit and in-class unit exam.

This extra credit consists of taking an oral examination based on the respective unit exam. Students have to email the instructor to schedule an appointment within one day of the instructor returning the unit exam.

### **Board Rule 9803.12 Dishonesty - East Los Angeles College - Policy On Academic Honesty**

Refer to the East Los Angeles General Catalog 2011 - 2013 page 28.

### Electronic Device Class Policy:

An electronic device such as a cell phone, PDA, MP3 player (earphones included), Bluetooth device, computer and recording devices may not be out and may not be used while the class is in session. Students must put all such devices away while the class is in session. If a student is caught with an electronic device while the class is in session, the student will lose the right their upcoming in-class unit exam. This means that the student will receive a grade of zero for their upcoming unit exam. A student who has lost their right to take the unit exam due to an electronic device can earn the right to take it by turning in "book homework". The student will not receive extra credit, but will regain the right to take the in-class exam and receive credit.

### Definition of caught with an electronic device in class:

If the instructor

- i. Sees it the electronic device
- ii. Hears the electronic devise  
(This includes a phone ringing, beeping, vibrating, etc)
- iii. Sees a student texting
- iv. Sees any one checking their electronic device while the class is in session

This also means that students will close all book bags, purses, etc and set these items next to them on the floor or underneath their chair. Students will not be allowed to place their bag on top of their desk or on their lap while the class is in session. I suggest that each student turn off their electronic device and put it away while the class is in session.

### Important Winter 2012 Semester Dates:

<b>Thurs - Mon. Dec. 29 - Jan. 02</b>	<b>Holiday - College Closed (New Year's).</b>
Tuesday, Jan. 03	Day & Evening Classes Begin
Tues - Thurs. Jan. 03 - Jan. 05	Late Registration - open enrollment for open classes (based on instructor add permit)
<b>Thursday, Jan. 05</b>	<b>*ADD DEADLINE-Last Day to Add or Audit Classes</b> (Admissions will close at 7pm on this day)
Friday, Jan. 06	Last Day to return parking permits
<b>Friday, Jan. 06</b>	<b>*DROP DEADLINE #1-Last Day to Drop Classes Without Having to Pay Fees</b>
<b>Friday, Jan. 13</b>	<b>*DROP DEADLINE #2-Last Day to Drop Without Class Appearing on Transcript</b>
Friday, Jan. 13	Last Day to File for Pass/No Pass
Friday, Jan. 13	Last Day for Section Transfers
<b>Monday, Jan. 16</b>	<b>Holiday - College Closed (Martin Luther King Day)</b>
<b>Friday, Jan. 27</b>	<b>*DROP DEADLINE #3-Last Day to Drop Classes with a "W" (75% of term)</b>
<b>Wednesday, Feb. 01</b>	<b>Last Day of Class Instruction</b>
<b>Thursday, Feb. 02</b>	Final Examinations
Friday, Feb. 03	Winter 2012 Session Ends
Thursday, Feb. 09	Refund checks mailed

**\*Note:** Syllabus subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.