Instructor: Mrs. Diana Pell

Email: Diana.Pell@rcc.edu
Office: MTSC 122

Office Hours: MWF 11 AM - 12 PM and T 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM (and by appointment).

Communication: I will be using an app called Remind to communicate with you. In order to receive my notifications text @f0e825 to 81010.

Course Website: websites.rcc.edu/pell

Textbook: Elementary Algebra, 5th edition by Tussy/Gustafson

Prerequisites: MAT-64; MAT-65; MAT-90F; or appropriate score on the placement exam; or the equivalent.

Course Description and Goals: This course will cover real numbers and variables as they are involved in polynomials, fractions, linear equations, quadratic equations, systems of equations, inequalities, exponential and radical expressions, and absolute value. Factoring, graphing, and word problem applications will also be included.

Recommended Materials: No calculators will be allowed! It will be helpful to have a three-ring binder, pens/pencils with various colors, and some graphing paper.

Syllabus: We will cover most of Chapters 1-9 in the text.
Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course you should be able to:

1. Perform arithmetic operations on real numbers and polynomial, rational, and radical expressions.
2. Evaluate algebraic expressions.
3. Solve equations involving linear, quadratic, rational, and radical expressions.
4. Graph linear equations and inequalities given the equation and find the equation given the graph.
5. Factor polynomials.
6. Apply algebraic principles and techniques to the solution of applications.
7. Use the symbols and vocabulary of algebra to clearly communicate mathematical concepts.

Exams: There will be three exams (in class) and a comprehensive final exam at the end of the term. No make-up exams will be given unless you provide documentation.

Exam I is on Wednesday, September 23.
Exam II is on Friday, October 16.
Exam III is on Wednesday, November 11.
Final Exam is on Friday, December 11 from 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm in the usual classroom.

Homework: Written homework will usually be assigned on Wednesdays, and due in class one week later. There will be 10% penalty (per day) for late homework. Written homework assignments must be stapled. To receive full credit on written homework you must show all your work and box your final answers.

Grading: Your grade will be based on the weighted average of your exams, in-class work, and homework scores, according to this formula: Quizzes, groupwork, and homework 15%, 60% in-class exams (20% each), and 25% final.

This course is graded on the following scale:

\[ A = 90 - 100\%; \quad B = 80 - 89\%; \quad C = 70 - 79\%; \quad D = 60 - 69\%; \quad F = 59\% \text{ or lower.} \]
Attendance: It is extremely important that you attend every class session. Leaving early or arriving late is disrespectful and disruptive. Any student with two consecutive unexcused absences or a total of three unexcused absences may be dropped from the course. (An absence is unexcused if prior notification with an acceptable reason and/or documentation of an emergency is not provided). Arriving late or leaving early may count as an absence. Any student with any unexcused absences in the first two weeks of the course is subject to being dropped from the course.

Cell Phones: Please silence your cell phones while in class.

Special Needs: If you have a physical, psychiatric/emotional, medical, or learning disability that may impact your ability to carry out assigned course work, I urge you to contact the staff in the Disability Resource Center Office at (951) 222-8060. DRC will review your concerns and determine, with you, what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

Resources: I recommend studying together by forming study groups. Your classmates can be an excellent resource. You are also always welcome to come see me during my office hours. Tutoring is available in the Math Learning Center (located in MLK-308). Reminder: It is expected that all work submitted be original, not copied from others, and that the work is indeed done by the student who is receiving the grade!

Cheating Policy: Students are expected to abide by the colleges policies regarding plagiarism and cheating. According to board policy, an instance of academic dishonesty may result in a reduced score, failing the course, or a recommendation of suspension from the course. A second offense may result in expulsion proceedings.

Important Dates:

Last day to add: September 11, 2015
Last day to drop without a W: September 13, 2015
Last day to drop with a W: November 20, 2015

I reserve the right to make small changes to both your grade and the schedule due to unforeseen factors.