

**Math 121: College Algebra – ALEKS based**  
**Fall 2017                      Section 507                      CRN 61456**  
**Syllabus**

**Instructor:** Elaine W. Clark

**Office:** Academic Bldg. Room 142C

**Office Hours:**

**Face-to-Face at Valencia Campus:** 142C: Monday/Wednesday 9:30 to 10:30AM;  
Tuesday/Thursday 2:30 to 4:30 PM. Math Center: Monday 2:00 to 3:00 PM; Tuesday  
1:30 to 2:30 PM

**Other hours by appointment**

**Phone:** 925-8618 (my office), 925-8600 (Academic office)

**email:** [ewclark@unm.edu](mailto:ewclark@unm.edu) or send a message in Blackboard Learn. I will check email Monday through Thursday afternoon unless I am out of town. Expect a response within 24 hours to email messages sent Sunday afternoon through Thursday evening. If you send me a message on Friday afternoon through Sunday I will may not see it until Monday.

**Meeting Times:** This class is listed as a 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week, hybrid course. Any student who wishes to complete Math 121 by the end of Fall 2017, may register at any time on or before October 20, as long as he/she meets the prerequisite and there is room in the course. Deadlines will be calculated based on registration date. The face-to-face portion of this class is scheduled for Monday/Wednesday from 4:30 to 5:45 PM. There will be additional assignments students should complete outside of class. These additional assignments are posted in Blackboard Learn.

**Course Prerequisites**

In order for you to enroll in this course you will need to meet one of the following criteria:

- ACT score greater or equal to 22
- SAT score greater or equal to 510
- Grade of C or better in MATH 120 or MATH 103
- Appropriate AccuPlacer score

Check with your advisor to determine if you meet one of these requirements.

**Course Overview**

All four parts – Math 121A, B, C, and D – taken together fulfill the learning objectives of Math 121 at UNM. College Algebra prepares you for, and is one of the prerequisites for Math 150 (Pre-Calculus), Math 123 (Trigonometry), and Math 180 (Elements of Calculus I). It is also a graduation requirement for many majors at UNM. It is the study of equations, functions and graphs, especially those involving linear, quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic functions. You will also receive an introduction to polynomial and rational functions and their graphs. And you will be asked to handle various types of applications of these functions.

***You must complete all four parts Math 121 A, B, C, and D to earn a grade for this course. This course is NOT modularized in the same way as Math 101/102/103. Also, this class is NOT mastery-based. You will be expected to complete exams and projects at the scheduled time. Progress in this class is not based upon how much of your ALEKS pie you have completed.***

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

A list of the Course Goals and Student Learning Outcomes as posted on the main campus website for this course are listed at the end of this syllabus and on your schedule. You should skim through these to know what to expect from this course.

## **Text and Tools - Required**

- An ALEKS access code is required for this course.
  - **ALEKS Course Code for Math 121 A is:** 9FPG3-WFVDH.
- The financial aid code is available upon request of your instructor. Once you have either completed Part A or the deadline has passed, you will automatically be moved to Math 121 B. Similarly for Parts C and D. Go to <http://www.aleks.com> to register for this class. If you have not used ALEKS before, you will need to create an ALEKS account.
- You will need access to Blackboard Learn. This is the primary program we will use for communication in the class. You will use your UNM NetID to log into Learn. You may access it directly via <http://learn.unm.edu>
- You will need to use a *scientific* calculator for this course. You need not own a *graphing* calculator, any assignments that require the graphing of functions you can also do using free software on the internet.
- You will also need administrative rights to download free software or plug-ins or add-ons on the computer you plan to use for this course.

**You will need high-speed internet and the ability to upload free software to access the online materials.**

**Time for This Course:** Plan right now to spend a minimum of *12 to 15 hours per week* for this class (including time in class). Your grade includes spending a minimum of 10 hours per week in the ALEKS program (must also show progress in ALEKS). Please seek help from tutors and instructors as needed. You may earn up to **10 Homework Points** each week for progress and time worked in ALEKS. You may be able to earn extra credit points in this category if your progress is above and beyond the expectation. However, no more than 10% of your final course grade can be earned from extra credit.

**Projects:** There will be three or four projects to complete for this course. These are written assignments posted in Blackboard Learn. Each project is worth **100 Project Points**.

**Exams at End of Each Part:** There will be *written* exams at the end of each part of this class. The exams after Parts A, B, and C are each worth 10% of your final course grade. The cumulative, departmental final exam follows after Part D and is worth 30% of your final course grade. You must score a **70% or better on the final and have a 70% or better course average** to earn a passing grade in this class.

## **Error analysis and correction:**

If you score less than 90% on a term exam (*not the final*), you can:

- conduct an error analysis of the problems you missed and make corrections to those problems.

- Your error analysis and corrections need to be made on a separate sheet of paper. The correction paper is vertically divided in half. Put the number of the problem you missed and then rework the problem on the LEFT side of the paper, and write an explanation of what was done incorrectly on the RIGHT side for that particular problem.
- Turn in your error analysis and corrections with the original test paper.
- Once you have completed your error analysis and corrections, you can earn up to half missed points back in your score.

**Course Grade:**

Your Course Grade will be determined in the following way:

- Average Weekly Hours in ALEKS and attendance in class 20%
- Average on Projects 20%
- Exams on Parts A, B, and C (10% each) 30%
- Departmental Final 30%

**You must score at least a 70% on the final exam *and* have a 70% or better weighted course average to earn a passing grade in the course.**

Depending on the grading option you have chosen, your final course letter grade will be determined as follows:

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Final Exam score AND Course Average</b>
A	Final 70% or better <b>AND</b> Course Average 90% or better
B	Final 70% or better <b>AND</b> Course Average 80% to 89%
C/CR	Final 70% or better <b>AND</b> Course Average 70% to 79%
D+	Final less than 70% <b>AND</b> Course Average 70% or greater
D/NC	Took final exam <b>AND</b> Course Average 50% to 69%, or, did <i>not</i> take final exam <b>AND</b> Course Average 60 to 69%.
F/NC	Took final exam <b>AND</b> Course Average less than 50%, or, did <i>not</i> take final exam <b>AND</b> Course Average less than 60%.

I do not often assign + or – grades, but will do so when the weighted course average is between the break points for a letter grade. However, I will never assign the grade of C–.

**Schedule for exams on Parts A, B, and C:**

To determine when you will need to complete the exams for parts A, B, and C use the following algorithm:

$$\frac{\text{Number of weeks left in semester when begin working in ALEKS}}{4} = \text{weeks to complete each part}$$

Example 1: If you begin working in the Part A ALEKS pie during the week of August 28, your calculation will be:  $\frac{15}{4} = 3.75$  which means your exams will be as follows:

- **Part A on or before Sept. 20**
- **Part B on or before October 18**
- **Part C on or before November 15.**

Example 2: If you begin working in the Part A ALEKS pie during the week of October 16, your calculation will be:  $\frac{8}{4} = 2$  which means your exams will be as follows:

- **Part A on or before November 1**
- **Part B on or before November 15**
- **Part C on or before December 4.**

*All final exams must be completed on or before Wednesday, December 13.*

You may use a 3 inch by 5 inch index card for formulas for each exam. Also, you may use a stand-alone calculator, not one that is on your phone or other mobile device. No other electronic devices are allowed. The exams for Parts A, B, and C are designed to take 1½ hours or less to complete. The final exam is cumulative and is designed to take 2 hours or less to complete.

**IMPORTANT DATES for 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week classes (all deadlines are by 5:00 PM Mountain Time):**

Last day to add or change grading mode on LOBOWeb:	Friday, October 20, 2017
Last date to drop without a grade:	Friday, October 27, 2017
Last date to drop without Dean’s Permission:	Friday, December 1, 2017
Thanksgiving:	November 23-26
Last date to change grading mode with form	Friday, December 8, 2017
Last date to drop with Dean’s permission	Friday, December 8, 2017

**SUPPORT SERVICES:** Math Center tutors are available in the Learning Commons M-Th from 8 to 5, and Fridays 8 to 1 (925-8907). There are also open computer labs on campus for students’ use. The Valencia Campus Library provides a quiet atmosphere for study and is an excellent resource for supplementary materials.

**CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS:** Students are expected to conduct themselves in a polite, courteous, professional, and collegial manner.

- Cell phones must be set on silent. Please step into the hall if you need to take a call during class.
- **ABSOLUTELY NO FOOD** is allowed in the computer labs. Drinks are only allowed if they are in sealed containers with tightly fitting lids that will not spill.
- During a quiz or exam, cell phones must be turned *off* and be out of sight. No personal electronic devices are allowed. A calculator is allowed if appropriate (some quizzes or portions of the final exam will have a restriction on calculator use). If you leave for any reason during a quiz or exam, your paper will be collected and you will not be allowed to continue working on that exam or quiz.

**TITLE IX:** In an effort to meet obligations under Title IX, UNM faculty, Teaching Assistants, and Graduate Assistants are considered responsible employees. This designation requires that

any report made to a faculty member, TA, or GA regarding sexual misconduct or gender discrimination must be reported to the Office of Equal Opportunity and the Title IX Coordinator. For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, see:

<https://policy.unm.edu/universitypolicies/2000/2740.html>

**DISABILITY STATEMENT:** If you have a documented disability, please provide me with a copy of your letter from Equal Access Services as soon as possible to ensure that accommodations are provided in a timely manner. The Equal Access Office can be reached at 925-8510.

**UNM'S POLICY ON ACADEMIC HONESTY:** Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, including dismissal, against any student who is found responsible for academic dishonesty. Any student who has been judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in course work may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests or assignments, claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; and misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or outside the University.