

# MATH 1215: Intermediate Algebra

## Instructor

**Dr. Ariel Ramirez**

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Office: LRC 172

## Class Details

Monday/Wednesday

Class Time: 12-1:15pm

Room: VAAS 124

MyMathLab Course ID:

**ramirez45835**

## Office Hours

**M/W 1:30-3pm (LRC)**

**T/Th 11:30am-1pm (LRC)**

**Or by Appointment**



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## Course Description

This course is a study of linear and quadratics functions, and an introduction to polynomial, absolute value, rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions. A development of strategies for solving single variable equations and contextual problems. (3 Credit Hours).

**Prerequisites:** Appropriate placement score or a grade of C or better in Math 100 or Math 022 or ACT Math  $\Rightarrow$  17 or SAT Math Section  $\Rightarrow$  460 or ACCUPLACER Next-Generation Advanced Algebra and Functions = 218-238. Check with your adviser to make sure you meet the requirements.



## Course Outcomes

In this course, we will explore linear functions, systems of linear equations, linear inequalities, polynomials and factoring, rational functions, and radical functions, and we will introduce exponential and logarithmic functions. A complete list of the Student Learning Objectives for this course is given at the end of this syllabus.

## Course Materials

### Textbook:

"Developmental Mathematics," 2nd edition, by Sullivan, Struve, Mazzarella.

**Required:** Appropriate MyMathLab (MML) access code (do not purchase a generic code, in this case the code is book specific). You may purchase the 18-week access code for a lower price, but you *cannot* upgrade to the lifetime code once you purchase the restricted one.

**Optional:** You may "upgrade" your access by purchasing a hardcopy of the book directly from Pearson for an additional cost (between \$50 and \$60 before tax). There will be copies of the book on reserve for use in the library (you will not be able to take the book from the library home).

### Other Requirements:

- Reliable access to a computer or tablet, and Internet. A computer (laptop or desktop) is recommended. Preferred browsers are Chrome, Firefox, or Safari. Preferred operating systems are Windows or Apple.

**Other Requirements (continued):**

- Administrative rights to download free software or plug-ins or add-ons on the computer you plan to use for this course. The first time you login to the MyMathLab (MML) homepage run the Installation Wizard to make sure you have all the appropriate software installed. Also, make sure you are allowing popups.
- Pearson account. If you have used any of the Pearson My Lab products before, you can use the same account you created the first time you used it. Otherwise, you can create an account when you register in MyMathLab (MML) for this class. Register by going to [mymathlab.com](http://mymathlab.com).
- Access to UNM Learn. will use your UNM NetID to log into UNM Learn. You may access it directly via [learn.unm.edu](http://learn.unm.edu)
- Standard or Scientific calculator. This cannot be an app on your cell phone.
- Adobe Reader (a free download), preferably version 11.0 or better.

## Classroom Policies

**Attendance / Participation (10%)**

You are expected to be on time to each class and stay the entire class, have the necessary course materials on hand, and participate in the lecture and/or group activities to receive full credit for attendance each day.

**Absences:** If you know ahead of time you will miss a class, send me an email indicating the date of the absence.

Arrange before the next class meeting to get notes from a classmate. The student bears full responsibility for the material and information covered in class.

Each student starts with 100 attendance points. Attendance is taken at the **beginning** of class. Eight attendance points is deducted for each unexcused absence; Four attendance point for tardiness.



abcgallery.com - Internet's biggest art collection

"Gorge Improvisation" - Kandinsky 1914

**EXPECTATIONS:** Students are expected to conduct themselves in a polite, courteous, professional and collegial manner. **Cell phones must be set on silent and be out of sight during class. No food or drink is allowed in the computer labs.**

**Time for This Course:** Plan to spend a *minimum* of 9 to 12 hours per week for this class. There is no guarantee you will pass if you dedicate this amount of time, you still need to learn the material and use your time wisely, but those who pass generally are the ones who spend the time needed to learn the material.

**Homework (10%)**

Homework is assigned nearly every week based on the 13 units in the course outline. Weekly assignments in MyMathLab must be completed not later than the indicated date in MML. **Each homework assignment is worth 25 points. A 15% penalty may be incurred if your homework is late.**



## Classroom Policies

### Written Homework (20%)

Each unit will have a separate written homework and must be completed no later than the beginning of class as indicated on the outline. The purpose of the homework is to determine if you are understanding the concepts correctly. Homework that is illegible will not be graded. **Each homework assignment is worth 25 points. Late homework may be graded. If graded, it receives a 15% penalty.**



Hyperbolic Lamp Shade

### Projects (10%)

During the semester, three projects will be assigned. If available, you may have some class time to begin or work on the project, but it will be designed for you to complete at home. If you are working on this project in groups, you must demonstrate that you contributed to the group answer. I also require *individual* submissions of the project, not one group paper. Each project will be worth 25 points toward your course grade. **Late projects may be graded. If graded, it receives a 15% penalty.**

### Exams (20%)

There will be two exams during the semester that will be written exams given during class. These will correspond to the final exams for Math 101 and for Math 102 respectively. Each is worth 100 points. If you are ill or an unexpected event happens, and you cannot make it to the exam, you have one week to make it up.

**Error Analysis and Resubmission of Exams:** Once you have your graded exam back, I expect you to complete an error analysis on the problems you missed on the exam and rework them. This error analysis and resubmission will be due one week after I return the exams to the class. To earn back up to half the points missed, corrections need to be made on a separate sheet of paper. The correction paper is vertically divided in half: The problem must be reworked on the LEFT side of the paper, and the RIGHT side must contain your verbal explanation of what was done incorrectly on the exam for that problem.

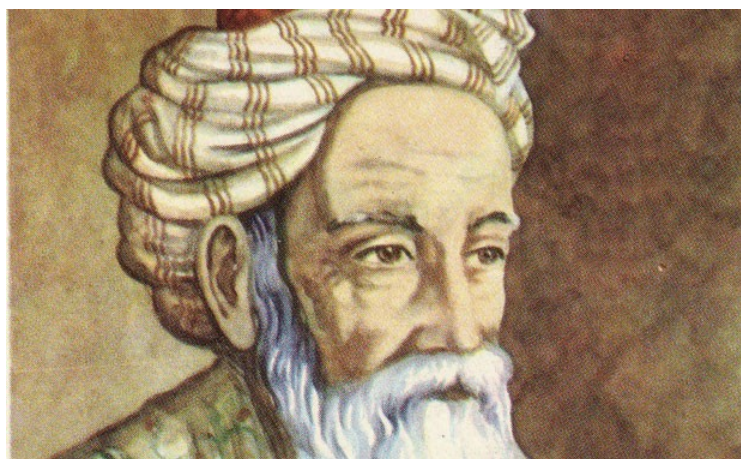
**Student Resources:** If you are struggling in this course, do not be afraid to ask for help!

- Ask My Instructor: Please use the Ask My Instructor button in MyMathLab. This button is available in the computational assignments and in the quizzes and sends a message to my email with a link to the question. Do not just send the link, tell me where in the problem you are struggling.
- Office Hours: See my office hours listed at the beginning of this syllabus.
- Form study groups: You may work together with other members of our class.
- Free Tutoring: The Math Center at Valencia campus has free tutoring and open labs. Call 505-925-8907 for more information.
- Student Services: There are various services provided in our Student Services Department. See below about equal access. Also, we have a testing center, advising, and career placement available: [Valencia Student Services](#)

## University Policies

**Equal Access:** In accordance with University Policy 2310 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. It is imperative that you take the initiative to bring such needs to the instructor's attention, as I am not legally permitted to inquire. Students who may require assistance in emergency evacuations should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow. Contact Accessibility Resource Center at 277-3506 for additional information.

If you need an accommodation based on how course requirement interact with the impact of a disability, you should contact me to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. At the appointment we can discuss the course format and requirements, anticipate the need for adjustments and explore potential accommodations. I rely on the Disability Services Office for assistance in developing strategies and verifying accommodation needs. If you have not previously contacted them I encourage you to do so.



*Omar Khayyam 1048-1131*

Khayyam was an astronomer, astrologer, physician, philosopher, and mathematician. In 1070, he published *Treatise on Demonstration of Problems of Algebra and Balancing*. In it he showed that a cubic equation can have more than one solution. He also showed how the intersections of conic sections such as parabolas and circles can be utilized to yield geometric solutions of cubic equations.

[www.famousscientists.org/omar-khayyam/](http://www.famousscientists.org/omar-khayyam/).

If you are a Valencia campus student, contact Equal Access Services at Valencia Campus, Jeanne Lujan at (505)925-8910 or [Valencia Student Services](#). If you are a main campus student you can receive documentation from the main campus Accessibility Resource Center. I will not guarantee accommodation without the appropriate documentation.

**Collegial Behavior:** Since I assume you are all adults, I will expect respectful adult behavior. Engaging in disruptive or unruly behavior could result in your being asked to leave, at which time you will be counted absent and a referral will be sent to the Associate Dean of Student Services. Continuing to behave in this way could result in your being dropped from the course. Disruptive or unruly behavior includes but is not limited to:

- texting or talking on your cell phone at any time during class,
- continually talking with your neighbor when we are not working on a group activity,
- working on homework from another class,
- reading material or watching media on a mobile device not related to this course or at a time that is inappropriate,
- refusing to participate in the class activities.

### Academic Integrity

Having academic integrity is paramount to your success in any class. Plagiarism or cheating is not tolerated. Any instance of this will result in a grade of zero for that assignment. Here is the link to the UNM Academic Dishonesty Policy: <https://policy.unm.edu/regents-policies/section-4/4-8.html>.

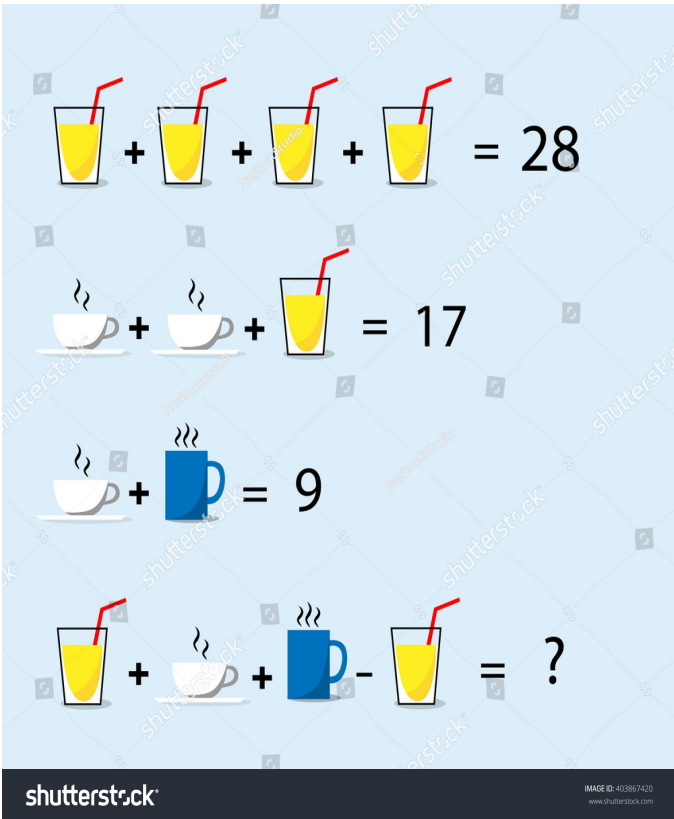
The policy states:

*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, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or who otherwise fails to meet the expected standards.*

# University Policies (continued)

Any student 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 is defined as:  
"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; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.



**Title IX Statement:** In an effort to meet obligations under Title IX, UNM faculty, Teaching Assistants, and Graduate Assistants are considered “responsible employees” by the Department of Education (see pg. 15 - <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/qa-201404-title-ix.pdf>). This designation requires that any report of gender discrimination which includes sexual harassment, sexual misconduct and sexual violence made to a faculty member, TA, or GA must be reported to the Title IX Coordinator at the Office of Equal Opportunity ([oeo.unm.edu](http://oeo.unm.edu)). For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, see: <https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html>

## Grading

COURSE AVERAGES:	
Attendance/Class Participation	10%
MyMathLab Online Homework	10%
Written Homework	20%
Three Projects	10%
Term Exam (two, 100 points each)	20%
Cumulative Final Exam*	30%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

### GRADING SCALE:

Letter Grade	Final Exam score AND Course Weighted Average
A	70% or better AND 90% or better
B	70% or better AND 80% to 89%
C	70% or better AND 70% to 79%
CR	70% or better AND 70% or better
D	Any AND 60% to 69%
F	Any AND Less than 60%
NC	Any AND 69% or less



**Math 1215: Intermediate Algebra (Spring 2020)** (*Course outline is subject to change*)

Week	Dates	Sections / Topics	Assignments
1	1/22 W	Introduction <i>Unit 1: Sec. 5.1, 5.2</i>	
2	1/27-1/29 M/W	<i>Unit 1: Sec. 5.4, and 6.1</i> <i>Unit 2: Sec. 6.2, 8.1, and 8.2</i>	MML Unit 1 homework due Written Unit 1 homework due
	1/31	<b>Last day to add a course (5pm)</b>	
3	2/3-2/5 M/W	<i>Unit 3: Sec. 8.3, and 8.4</i> <i>Unit 4: Sec. 8.8, and 9.1</i>	MML Unit 2 homework due Written Unit 2 homework due <b>Project 1 is due</b>
	2/7	<b>Last day to drop a course without a grade (5pm)</b>	
4	2/10-2/12 M/W	<i>Unit 4: Sec. 9.2</i> <i>Unit 5: Sec. 9.3, 9.4, and 9.5</i>	MML Unit 3 homework due Written Unit 3 homework due
5	2/17-2/19 M/W	<b>Review</b> <b>Exam #1</b>	MML Unit 4 homework due Written Unit 4 homework due
6	2/24-2/26 M/W	<i>Unit 6: Sec. 11.1, 11.2, and 11.3, and 11.4</i>	MML Unit 5 homework due Written Unit 5 homework due
7	3/2-3/4 M/W	<i>Unit 7: Sec. 11.6, 9.6, 10.2, and 12.1</i>	MML Unit 6 homework due Written Unit 6 homework due
8	3/9-3/11 M/W	<i>Unit 8: Sec. 12.2, 12.3, 15.1, and 6.4</i>	MML Unit 7 homework due Written Unit 7 homework due <b>Project 2 is due</b>
<b>3/15 – 3/22 Spring Break</b>			
9	3/23-3/25 M/W	<i>Unit 9: Sec. 12.6, 16.2, 14.3 (Function Notation Only), and 16.5</i> <i>Unit 10: Sec. 14.1</i>	MML Unit 8 homework due Written Unit 8 homework due
10	3/30-4/1 M/W	<b>Review</b> <b>Exam #2</b>	MML Unit 9 homework due Written Unit 9 homework due
11	4/6-4/8 M/W	<i>Unit 10: Sec. 14.2, 14.3, 14.4, and 17.2</i>	
12	4/13-4/15 M/W	<i>Unit 11: Sec. 17.3, 15.2, 15.3, and 15.4</i>	MML Unit 10 homework due Written Unit 10 homework due <b>Project 3 is due</b>
	4/17	<b>Last day to drop without Dean's Permission (5pm)</b>	
13	4/20-4/22 M/W	<i>Unit 12: Sec. 15.8, 13.1, 13.2, and 13.3</i>	MML Unit 11 homework due Written Unit 11 homework due
14	4/27-4/29 M/W	<i>Unit 13: Sec. 13.5, 13.7, and 14.7</i>	MML Unit 12 homework due Written Unit 12 homework due
15	5/4-5/6 M/W	<b>Review</b>	MML Unit 13 homework due Written Unit 13 homework due
	5/8	<b>Last day to drop with Dean's permission/change grade mode with form (5pm)</b>	
16	5/11	<b>Final Exam Week</b>	

## Course Student Learning Outcomes

*Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:*

**A. Demonstrate appropriate use of basic function language and notation.**

- Communicate or present mathematical concepts using correct mathematical notation and terminology.
- Correctly use function notation and vocabulary related to functions.
- Determine function values for given domain values and determine domain values for given function values.
- Determine domains for specific functions.

**B. Convert between equivalent forms of algebraic expressions.**

- Simplify expressions using properties of exponents.
- Add, subtract, and multiply polynomials.
- Rewrite line equations in different forms (slope-intercept, point-slope, standard)
- Factor some types of polynomials.
- Simplify radical expressions.
- Simplify rational expressions.
- Rewrite exponential functions in logarithmic form and vice versa.

**C. Solve single-variable equations.**

- Solve for a single variable in a proportion.
- Solve for a single variable in a linear equation.
- Solve for a specified variable in a formula.
- Solve quadratic equations using factoring, quadratic formula, and the square root method.
- Solve equations containing rational expressions.
- Solve equations containing radical expressions.
- Solve absolute value equations in one variable.
- Solve exponential and logarithmic equations using equating bases.

**D. Interpret and communicate algebraic solutions graphically and numerically.**

- Determine equations for lines in the three forms – slope-intercept and point-slope.
- Sketch the graphs of linear functions.
- Interpret slope in relation to variable coefficients and as a rate of change.
- Graph linear inequalities in one variable on a number line and write corresponding interval notation.
- Determine when linear equations represent parallel and perpendicular lines.
- Sketch graphs of quadratic functions.

**E. Demonstrate contextual problem-solving skills that include setting up and solving problems and interpreting solutions in context.**

- Determine linear equations from application problems and solve.
- Set up a linear proportion from an application problem and solve.
- Analyze solutions to application problems and give them contextual meaning.
- Determine the three types of outcomes from a system of linear equations in the context of what the graphs look like (terminology about consistent/inconsistent or dependent/independent not emphasized)
- Determine a system of linear equations from an application problem and solve if possible.

**F. Apply appropriate problem-solving methods from among algebraic, graphical, and numerical.**

- Perform unit conversions.
- Solve linear inequalities in one variable.
- Simplify expressions written in scientific notation.
- Simplify multiplication and division problems using scientific notation.
- Apply solution methods learned to application problems.
- Solve systems of two linear equations graphically and algebraically.
- Perform operations with radical expressions.
- Perform operations with rational expressions.
- Solve absolute value inequalities in one variable.

***Completing Math 1215 meets the prerequisites for Math 1130, Math 1350, Math 1220, and some science classes.***