I. COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Sarah Ives, Ph.D.
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Office location: Eureka 218
Office phone: (916) 278-3552
Student hours: Monday 9-11am, Wednesday 2-3pm and by appointment

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The curriculum for MLSK 10A includes a review of fundamental concepts, measurement geometry, and introductory algebra. MLSK 10A is a course that satisfies the Entry Level Mathematics Requirement. This means that after receiving credit for MLSK 10A you may substitute course passage for passage of the ELM exam.

III. PREREQUISITES for the COURSE

Students who scored between 36 and 42 on the ELM will be placed in MLSK10A. This course is not recommended for students who have never had algebra or for students who scored less than 36 on the ELM. Students who scored less than 36 on the ELM should take MLSK 7A and MLSK 7B.

IV. REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS and OTHER MATERIALS

- Supplementary Textbook for Elementary Algebra with Geometry, by Sedah Tath, Fall 2014 [available in the Hornet Bookstore]
- Basic scientific calculator
- Regular access to high speed internet

V. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course is specifically designed to address the needs of students to be familiar with elementary algebra with geometry. Students in this class will:

1. Demonstrate competence in the discipline: Homework, journal assignments, quizzes, warm-up problems, exams and project assessments will be used to demonstrate competency in the discipline.
2. Gain intellectual and practical skills: Journal assignments and project assessments will be used to demonstrate inquiry and analysis, critical and creative thinking, problem solving, and written communication.

VI. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS and ACTIVITIES

The course will be a combination of instructional presentation of new material and concepts, whole-class discussion, individual investigations focused on discovery of mathematical applications, and optional one-on-one discussion time between students and the instructor outside of class. Students may be required to give brief individual presentations as part of project assignments. Students are expected to participate in group and whole class discussions by contributing with respect, knowledge, and thoughtful evaluation of the others’ contributions.
## VIII. TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Month</th>
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<th>Thursday</th>
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| 1    | January   | 27 Introductions  
Sections 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3  
Linear Equations; Absolute Value Equations; Literal Equations | 29 Sections 1.4, 1.5, and 1.6  
Geometry Applications; Inequalities; Graphing  
Linear Equations  
**Quiz on 1.1–1.3** |
| 2    | February  | 3 Sections 1.7, 1.8, and 1.9  
Slope; Equations of Lines Part 1; Equations of Lines Part 2 | 5 Sections 2.1, 3.1, and 3.2  
Functions; Solving Systems of Linear Equations by Substitution and by Elimination; Applications  
**Quiz on 1.4–1.9** |
| 3    | February  | 10 Review for Exam 1  
Quiz on 2.1, 3.1–3.2 | 12 Practice Exam 1 |
| 4    | February  | 17 Review practice Exam 1 | 19 Exam 1 |
| 5    | February  | 24 Sections 4.1, 4.2, and 4.3  
Add, Subtract Polynomials; Multiply, Divide Polynomials; Factor by GCF and by Grouping | 26 Sections 4.4, 4.5, and 4.6  
Factor Difference of Squares; Factoring Trinomials; Solving Quadratic Equations by Factoring  
**Quiz on 4.1–4.3** |
| 6    | March     | 3 Sections 4.7, and 4.8  
Square Root Property; Quadratic Formula | 5 Sections 4.9, 4.10  
Geometry Applications; Graphing Parabolas  
**Quiz on 4.4–4.8** |
| 7    | March     | 10 Review for Exam 2  
**Quiz on 4.9–4.10** | 12 Practice Exam 2 |
| 8    | March     | 17 Review practice Exam 2 | 19 Exam 2 |
| 9    | March/April | 31 Cesar Chavez Holiday | 2 Sections 5.1 and 5.2  
Simplify Radicals  
Add, Subtract Radicals |
| 10   | April     | 7 Section 5.3 and 5.4  
Multiply, Divide Radicals; Rational Exponents | 9 Sections 5.5 and 5.6  
Special Triangles; Radical Equations  
**Quiz on 5.1–5.4** |
| 11   | April     | 14 Section 6.1  
Complex Numbers | 16 Sections 7.1 and 7.2  
Reduce Rational Expressions; Multiply, Divide Rational Expressions  
**Quiz on 5.5–6.1** |
| 12   | April     | 21 Section 7.3 and 7.4  
Add, Subtract Rational Expressions; Solving Rational Equations and Proportions | 23 Sections 8.1 and 8.2  
Simplifying Exponents; Exponential Equations  
**Quiz on 7.1–7.4** |
| 13   | April     | 28 Review for Exam 3  
**Quiz on 8.1–8.2** | 30 Practice Exam 3 |
| 14   | May       | 5 Review practice Exam 3 | 7 **EXAM 3** |
| 15   | May       | 12 Final Exam Review  
Unit 1 and Unit 2 part I | 14 Final Exam Review  
Unit 2 Part II and Unit 3 |
| 16   | May       | The final exam will be given at the time and date published online at [http://www.csus.edu/schedule/Fall2014Spring2015/finals.html](http://www.csus.edu/schedule/Fall2014Spring2015/finals.html) | |
VII. MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS and ASSESSMENTS

This course is graded as credit (CR) or no credit (NC). It may also be possible to receive a report in progress (RP) grade. If you receive an RP grade, you will be required to pay for and attend a three-week post session. To earn a CR grade, a student must: Complete the course with at least a 70% average, AND pass the final exam with a score of at least 70% (unless you are exempt from the final exam, see below).

Course grades will be based on the following:

- Classwork & Weekly Quizzes: 20%
- Journals/Project Assessments: 30%
- In-class Exams: 30%
- Final Exam: 20%

**Classwork & Weekly Quizzes** – participation in inquiry tasks, whole-class discussion, and group work activities during regularly scheduled class time; classwork cannot be made up if you are absent. Your lowest two classwork/quiz scores will not be used in calculating your course grade. Online homework and other tasks to be completed outside of class will be due by announced deadlines. Out of class work will often require high speed internet access and may include use of particular technologies.

**Journals** – Journal assignments will involve analyzing and writing about the mathematical concepts presented in the course. Late journal assignments will be accepted for one week after the due date. Late journal assignments will receive 70% of the grade.

**In-class Exams** – There will be three 100-point exams given during the semester. Preceding each exam will be an in-class practice exam. Exams may not be retaken to improve the score – if you are absent for both the practice exam and the actual exam you will receive a score of 0 for that exam. Exceptions to this rule will be at the professor’s discretion.

**Final Exam** – The 200-point final exam is a comprehensive summative evaluation of your individual content knowledge. Basic scientific calculators may be used on exams (phone calculators are acceptable) all other electronic devices, books and notes are not allowed on exams. The final exam is scheduled by the university (http://www.csus.edu/schedule/Fall2014Spring2015/finals.html) and may not be retaken or made-up if missed. If you have a conflict with the scheduled time, please contact me a couple weeks before the final time to discuss options. A score of at least 70% on the comprehensive final exam is required for passage of the course. NOTE: **You will be exempt from the final exam if you:**

- Have at least an 80% average in the class prior to the final exam AND
- Have at least an 80% average on Exams 1-3 AND
- Are in good standing for attendance; to be in good standing you must have no more than 2 unexcused absences.

IX. CLASS POLICIES

**Attendance/Tardiness.** Regular attendance and effort are the best guarantee of your success in this course. Attendance will be recorded each class session; if you need to miss part or all of a class session, please **contact me before class** or as soon as possible. Email (see first section) is usually best. You are expected to:

- Attend every class session and be attentive while in class – not texting, receiving calls, checking Facebook, Twitter, etc.
- Arrive on time – if you do not, it is your responsibility to gather the information you missed.
- Be respectful of the instructor and other students – there is no talking when others are talking.
- Be participatory – respectfully participate in discussions without profanity, disrespect, or incivility toward the instructor or other students.
Cell Phones/Electronic Devices. We will be using electronic devices from time to time in class however, please silence electronic devices during class and step out of class if you must take a call or text communication.

Written Work. Good writing skills are important in this class. Please type and proof-read your written assignments. The Writing Center is available for help with written assignments.

In-Class Discussion. Everyone in the class is encouraged to express personal views with an emphasis on evidence-based claims and mutual respect.

Dropping a class. I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance & participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class.

Disability Accommodation. If you have a documented disability and are registered with Services to Students with Disabilities, please see your MLSK 10A instructor regarding any required accommodations.

Academic Dishonesty Policy. Although you are encouraged to work together for most of the course, you may not work together or share information on exams or quizzes. Cheating on exams is a serious offense and may result in expulsion, suspension, or probation from the University. Furthermore, cheating on exams will result in a NC grade in this course.

Emergency Evacuation. In the event of an emergency evacuation, you need to go with the class to the assembly point. Once you are out of the building, do not leave to join your friends or leave campus. I will take roll at the assembly point to make sure everyone has safely left the building.

Changes. The instructor may amend the syllabus at any time prior to the final exam by announcing the changes in class.