
Syllabus

MAT 0018 Developmental Mathematics I

Fall Term 2015 (Term #0505)

16W Face-to-Face ALEKS

INSTRUCTOR:

Name: Susanne Boera

E-mail: boera.susanne@spcollege.edu

Office Phone: 727 791-2700

Office Hours/Instructor Availability: Tuesday and Thursday 4:45 pm-5:30 pm

Instructor Web Page:

Office Location: NM 111

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT:

The Dean and Academic Chair/Program Director, are available to answer questions about math-related academic requirements. Concerns or issues specifically related to this class should first be discussed with the instructor before contacting the Dean or Academic Chair/Program Director for assistance.

Academic Chair/Program Director: Joy Moore, Phd.
Jimmy Chang

Dean:

Office Location: NM 132
Location: SP/G 215B

Office

Office Phone: 791-2542
Phone: 727-341-4305

Office

COURSE INFORMATION:

Course Description: This is the first course in the college-preparatory two-course sequence (MAT 0018 and MAT 0028) designed to prepare students for college-level mathematics courses. This course is a study of the basic skills and concepts of pre-algebra from the point of view of the college student who needs an understanding of pre-algebra. Major topics include operations with integers, fractions, decimals, percents, geometric figures and their measures (including application problems), and other pre-algebra topics. A minimum course grade average of C (minimum 70% accuracy) is required for successful completion. This course does not apply toward mathematics requirements in general education or toward any associate degree.

Prerequisite: Appropriate score on the SPC mathematics placement test.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK & OTHER RESOURCE INFORMATION:

Required Text, Publisher Information: *PreAlgebra-Ebook+ALEKS Code*, Miller/O'Neill Hyde, McGraw-Hill.

ALEKS Course Code:VUYEF-9UEQH
BE93E-B1C57-683C0

ALEKS Financial Aid Access Code:C2A89-

Bookstore: <http://spcollege.bncollege.com> ISBN Number: 9780077772871

Recommended Additional Materials/Supplies:

Academic Support provides resources such as tutoring, computer help, workshops, group study, and more! Please visit <http://www.spcollege.edu/support> to discover their hours and tutor schedules for this academic term.

SmarThinking is an online tutoring resource that can be accessed from your ANGEL/D2L home page.

ANGEL/D2L will be used in every section of this course and will house information about this course and links to other resources such as ALEKS.

Library: <http://www.spcollege.edu/libraries/>

Resource Guide: <http://www.spcollege.edu/resourceguide/>

Academic Honesty: <http://www.spcollege.edu/academichonesty/>

Syllabus Addendum: <http://www.spcollege.edu/addendum/>

SPC Student HelpDesk (for Technical Support with D2L/Angel):
<http://www.spcollege.edu/helpdesk/>

ALEKS Customer Support: http://www.aleks.com/support/contact_support

MEETING INFORMATION:

Course Location:NM103

Meeting Days: Tuesday and Thursday

Class Number: 2798

Class Times: 5:30pm-6:45pm

IMPORTANT DATES:

Course Dates: August 17-December 11, 2015

Last Day to Drop and Receive Refund: August 21, 2015

Last Day to Withdraw and receive a letter grade of "W": October 22, 2015 (60% point)

Financial Aid: <http://www.spcollege.edu/getfunds/>

DISCIPLINE-SPECIFIC INFORMATION:

Calculator Use: One goal of this course is to develop and/or improve your computational skills in the real number system. Calculators may be used to check your homework; however, calculators are NOT permitted on Tests or Exams.

Study Skills: MAT 0018 is a developmental mathematics course. Since this course is a **prerequisite** to MAT 0028 (Developmental Mathematics II) and any college-level mathematics course, you must master this material to do well in subsequent mathematics courses and in related courses. Success depends on the effort you invest in the course. Because the course builds on itself, you must **attend** all classes, log in several times weekly in ANGEL/D2L, and **focus** on the course content and class activities. Ask questions in class and after class. Seek extra help from your instructor or the Learning Support Commons. Try to complete all assignments and monitor your own progress. Remember that the rule of thumb is to plan for a minimum of three hours of study outside of class for every hour spent in class. Do not let yourself fall behind. Stay on top of your game!

ATTENDANCE:

Students are expected to attend class regularly and on time. The college-wide attendance policy is also included in the Syllabus Addendum. These policies note that each instructor is to exercise professional judgment and define "active participation" (and therefore "attendance") for each course, and publish that definition in each course syllabus. For this class, attendance is defined as not missing more than four classes in a semester..

STUDENT SURVEY OF INSTRUCTION:

The Student Survey of Instruction is administered in courses each semester. It is designed to improve the quality of instruction at St. Petersburg College. All student responses are confidential and anonymous and will be used solely for the purpose of performance improvement.

EARLY ALERT:

You are enrolled in a course where the Early Alert System is being used. This system allows the instructor to notify student support specialists of any issues that may affect your success as a SPC student. If you are contacted by a student support specialist then the two of you will be able to address your barriers to success. You will also be informed about campus and community resources available to you.

DISABILITY RESOURCES:

Disability Resources at SPC wants to help you succeed. If you have a documented disability or think that you may have learning or other disability and would like to request accommodations, please make an appointment with the Learning Specialist on the Clearwater campus, 727 791-2628. to complete the intake process and determine your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. If you would like more information, you can learn more about Disability Resources at www.spcollege.edu/dr

ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

The use of cell phones, MP3 players, iPod, tablets, laptops, and other electronic devices is a distraction. Please ensure that all devices are off (or in silent mode). Under no circumstance should any electronic device be used during any classroom assessment. If an emergency arises, please be courteous and leave quietly.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS:

In the event that a hurricane or other disaster causes closure of St. Petersburg College facilities, you may be provided the opportunity to complete your course work online. Following the event, please visit the college web site for an announcement of the College's plan to resume operations. This syllabus is currently available in ANGEL/D2L for your convenience. Log in to ANGEL/D2L to confirm that you have access, reporting any difficulty to the SPC Student Technical Support Center at 727-341-4357 or via email at Onlinehelp@spcollege.edu.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

You will be learning using a computer program called ALEKS rather than a traditional textbook and homework. ALEKS is a web-based, artificially intelligent assessment and learning system. ALEKS uses adaptive questioning to quickly and accurately determine exactly what you know and don't know in the course, and then provides instruction on the topics you are most ready to learn.

*Everyone starts out with an initial assessment to determine what they already know and where they are best able to start learning new material.

*When you use ALEKS, you complete only the learning tasks that you need and not those somebody else needs. Everyone will have a different individual learning plan. You can go quickly through material that is easy for you and practice as much as you need to on the harder material.

*All your work is kept on the ALEKS servers, so you can access your account from any computer connected to the Internet. Computers are available in the Learning Support Commons and in the library. **You must be willing to work online during class and outside of class for a minimum of 5 hours per week.**

*This course is divided into eight (8) modules. Each module contains topics you must master to complete the course. After each module, there will be a test. If you complete the module early, you may take the test early and move on. It is possible to finish the course early.

*The ALEKS developmental math I course contains 302 topics. Students who master these topics will have the foundation needed to be successful in future math classes and pass the final exam. You will demonstrate mastery through completing problems in the ALEKS program, taking periodic progress assessments, a midterm comprehensive assessment, and a final comprehensive assessment.

◆ If this computer based class does not match your learning style or personal situation, please talk to the instructor or math department about other options.

Initial Assessment

On the first day of class, we will register for ALEKS. Then you will view a tutorial and take an individual assessment to determine which topics you need to study. **Do the initial assessment carefully and honestly.** It will take about an hour. Use the calculator in ALEKS if needed and paper and pencil. I will go over your results with you when you finish. You do not need to have purchased your ALEKS code today in order to get started.

Pie Chart

The results of your assessment are shown in a color-keyed pie chart. Each slice of the pie chart relates to a particular area of math and is filled in with solid color to reflect your current mastery. Your goal is to fill in the slices of the pie chart. The dashed lines show the objectives for the module we are currently working on.

Learning Mode

Most of your time in ALEKS will be spent in Learning Mode, working practice problems. In most cases, you will solve only a few problems in order to establish your grasp of the concept. Every time you do a problem, ALEKS will give you immediate feedback on your answer. If you do not know how to do a problem, ALEKS will provide a complete worked out solution.

Periodic Assessments

As you make progress in ALEKS, you will be automatically reassessed at regular intervals (usually after every 8-10 hours or after 20-22 topics have been mastered) to check retention and provide review as needed. You may lose material from your pie on automatic reassessments; this is completely normal. A review of the material should make sure you really understand it for future assessments. The loss of material is based on the answers you gave on the assessment. ALEKS uses the assessments to update your pie and provide needed review. Usually students regain the lost "topics" after going over the problems one more time. If you are consistently having trouble with a topic, please see your instructor for help.

Class Time

During class your instructor will provide one-on-one instruction and small group instruction for certain topics. If you are having problems, please be sure to ask to go over that topic. There will also be the opportunity to work in ALEKS during class.

GRADING:

GRADING RATIONALE:

Class Participation – Hours in ALEKS required (10%)

You are required to work in ALEKS at least five (5) hours per week during the semester. You will receive a grade for completing the required hours in ALEKS. Hours will be checked when modules are due. Your grade (up to 100%) is the number of weekly ALEKS hours divided by the total number of ALEKS hours due.

Homework (10%)

Module topics will be offered as homework so that you can practice some of the harder material. You will have multiple attempts at the homework. If you miss class, you are responsible for checking and completing any homework that is assigned. If you do not complete the homework while it is available in ALEKS you will receive a zero. There will also be a practice test in ALEKS and ANGEL/D2L before each exam.

Classwork (10%)

Active learning, particularly cooperative learning, is a very effective method for students to learn mathematics. Active learning will be accomplished using classroom activities and/or projects.

Completing Topics on Time – Meeting ALEKS Pie Topic Objectives (15%)

All modules must be completed by the appropriate due dates. For the week in which they are assigned, assignments are due by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. (unless noted otherwise). Your grade is a percentage of the topics completed. ALEKS module grades are not posted in ANGEL/D2L until the Module due date closes.

Midterm Exam (25%)

There will be a comprehensive pencil/paper midterm exam. If you miss the exam, you will receive a zero.

Final Exam (30%)

There will be a comprehensive pencil/paper final exam. If you miss the exam, you will receive a zero.

Testing: *To encourage students to make every effort to be present for all exams, no makeup exams will be allowed. Students are strongly encouraged to earn a grade of 70% or higher on each exam.*

GRADING SCALE:

A	90% - 100%
B	80% - 89%
C	70% - 79%
F	0% - 69%

(A grade of "N" may be assigned to students who have completed the course and shown improvement, but did not pass.)

STUDENTS' EXPECTATIONS AND INSTRUCTOR'S EXPECTATIONS:

INSTRUCTOR'S EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS:

Your participation in this course is critical for the learning process. You should:

- (1) log in to MyCourses and ALEKS several times weekly
- (2) read all email communications and reply if asked
- (3) come to class ready to engage in meaningful mathematical discourse
- (4) treat the opinions of others with respect and tolerance
- (5) complete all assignments on time and with thoughtfulness
- (6) practice academic honesty in all your work
- (7) come to class on time (with cell phones off) and plan to remain for the entire class
- (8) contact the instructor promptly if there is an ongoing problem requiring special attention.

In college, students pay tuition for the privilege to sit in the classroom and participate in lecture and class discussion. Healthy and appropriate participation is a wonderful phenomenon, promoting a positive learning environment for all (an understandable expectation for both student *and* instructor). In contrast, sometimes individual students choose to disengage from normal class activity and consciously decide to engage in behavior which is distracting to, and negatively impacts other students; students who are trying to participate normally. These negative behaviors can originate from a multitude of poor choices and are inappropriate in higher education.

For example, various categories and models of personal electronics exist today – ranging from texting-enabled smart-phones, to music players with cameras and wireless Internet capability. Albeit this technology is fascinating, exciting, and personally entertaining, however, their use during class-time is ALWAYS distracting to the individual user's classmates.

WHAT STUDENTS CAN EXPECT FROM INSTRUCTOR:

The instructor will establish and maintain, with your involvement and help, a safe, comfortable learning environment in which your opinions and thoughts are valued.

The instructor will make meaningful assignments designed to broaden your knowledge and help improve your ability to problem solve utilizing the critical thinking skills developed in the study of Mathematics.

The instructor will offer you total availability to address any concerns or issues that may interfere with the learning process inside or outside of the classroom.

You can expect that the instructor will keep the course moving at a reasonable pace in order to satisfy the stated learning objectives.

The instructor will respect your thoughts, opinions and questions regarding the concepts being studied in this course and will attempt – to the best of the instructor's ability – to work with you in answering all your questions.

The instructor will supply fair, honest and timely evaluation of your progress in learning the concepts outlined in the objectives for this course.

SIGNATURE PAGE:

I have read, understand, and agree to abide fully by the parameters set in this syllabus and Syllabus Addendum.

Student Signature:

Date:

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