

VERNON COLLEGE
SYLLABUS

DIVISION: Mathematics and Science

DATE: 2012-2013

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: MATH 0100 Pre-Algebra A

CREDIT HRS: 1 HRS/WK LEC: 1 HRS/WK LAB: 1 LEC/LAB COMB: 2

I. VERNON COLLEGE GENERAL EDUCATION PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

General education at Vernon College reflects the institution's deep conviction that successful, satisfying lives require a wide range of skills and knowledge. We are dedicated to providing educational opportunities that develop the academic, career, and personal capabilities of individuals so they may achieve self-fulfillment and participate fully and positively in a democratic society. Vernon College has identified the following college-level competencies generated from the general education core:

GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COMPETENCIES:

- A. Critical Thinking: Students will evaluate the validity of ideas through a creative process of questioning, analyzing, and synthesizing.
- B. Communication/Interpersonal: Students will develop effective reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills to communicate verbally and nonverbally.
- C. Scientific and Mathematical Literacy: Students will apply an understanding of mathematical, natural, and behavioral scientific principles and methods to solve abstract and practical problems.
- D. Information Literacy: Students will develop the information literacy skills to confidently and competently locate, use, and evaluate information.
- E. Cultural Literacy: Students will develop an appreciation of human culture and its diversity and the role of the creative arts in society.

II. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Study skills for mathematics, the arithmetic operations on whole numbers, integers, and fractions, introductory algebraic concepts. Prerequisites: Course designed for students with scores of less than 200 on THEA or less than 50 on Accuplacer. Students with score ranges on the THEA between 150 and 200 or on the Accuplacer between 34 and 49 may be exempt from this course if they have an A or B from high school Algebra I within the last 5 years. Lab Fee: \$24.00; Special Fee: \$27.00

III. REQUIRED BACKGROUND:

Score of 0 to 199 on the MATH section of the THEA, or 49 or below on the Accuplacer or an equivalent score on a state approved placement test

V. TEXTS:

Prealgebra: An Integrated Approach. Lial and Hestwood; Value Pack, Pearson - Addison/Wesley; 2008. (Includes required software and solutions manual)

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: MATH 0100 Pre-Algebra A

V. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Lecture and Lab: Instructor-led class discussions and activities.

Lab: Collaborative and interactive learning methods, such as group work and instructor-guided activities using graphing calculators or other learning support tools and applications will be used, including audio-visual support media. In-class exercises and/or similar computer-aided tools for assessment will be used.

Students desiring auxiliary aids and services for this course should make their requests to the instructor and the Special Services Director.

VI. COURSE CONTENT:

1. Study skills for mathematics
2. Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of signed integers
3. Multiplication and division of signed fractions
4. Order of operations
5. Evaluation of formulas or expressions given values for the variables
6. Identification and solution of linear equations in one variable
7. Solution of practical application problems involving informal geometry

VII. COURSE OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course each student should be able to:

1. Compute with integers
2. Multiply and divide with fractions
3. Solve linear equations in one variable with integer coefficients
4. Work application problems employing course content

VIII. ASSESSMENT:

The student will be evaluated by his/her performance in solving problems requiring the outcomes listed above. Assessments may include homework assignments, participation in class, quizzes during class and examinations. An overall success rate of 70% will be required for a passing grade. Instructors will evaluate the performance of students and make adjustments in teaching strategies as needed.

IX. ATTENDANCE FOR DEVELOPMENTAL ACTIVITIES:

According to VC's developmental education plan, a student whose performance is below the minimum passing standard set by the Coordinating Board for a tested skill on a THECB approved assessment test must continuously participate in a developmental education program until the student is considered COLLEGE READINESS CLEAR in all three academic areas of reading, writing, and math. "Continuously" means that until the institution certifies that a student has successfully completed developmental education, a student enrolled each semester must enroll and participate in at least one developmental program. Although continuous enrollment in developmental courses is not

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: MATH 0100 Pre-Algebra A

required by SB 286, Vernon College has elected to continue this as an institutional policy. Each student will be held responsible for his/her classroom attendance. Excessive absenteeism (see course syllabus/outline) in a developmental course/program will result in a student being administratively withdrawn. The grade of “WF” will be awarded for administrative withdrawals.

X. DEVELOPMENTAL COURSE DESIGNATION:

The 78th Texas State Legislature repealed TASP (Texas Academic Skills Program) as of September 1, 2003. The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) is the state-mandated replacement for TASP laws. The program is intended to assess a student's COLLEGE READINESS for first year college-level academic courses. It requires an assessment of the student's basic academic skills in math, reading, and writing. Approved placement tests include these three sections as well as an essay in the writing section. As part of the TSI, all students are required to take an approved placement test unless exempt by the criteria described in the TSI. Vernon College will note if a student is COLLEGE READINESS CLEAR (meaning student has passed all three academic areas of reading, writing, and math, or student is exempt from taking test) or NOT CLEAR (meaning student has not passed all three academic skills areas.) Vernon College offers the Accuplacer Test and the regularly scheduled THEA test. Accuplacer is a state approved computerized placement test. It is offered in the Vernon College Testing Center by appointment only. Vernon College will accept scores of other state-approved placement tests, including Quick THEA, ASSET, COMPASS, and MAPS. When a student has taken two or more different placement tests, Vernon College will accept test results that best benefit the individual student.

Accuplacer		THEA	
Section	Passing Score	Section	Passing Score
Reading	78	Reading	230
Math	63	Math	230
Writing	80 with an essay of 5	Writing	220

ASSET		COMPASS	
Section	Passing Score	Section	Passing Score
Reading	41	Reading	81
Math	38	Math	39
Writing	40 with an essay of 5	Writing	59 with and essay of 5

IMPORTANT! The TSI law is in effect for all first-time college students registering for Spring 2004, and future semesters. Students who do not have placement scores or documented exemptions on file at Vernon College prior to enrolling will be severely limited in course selection. Please refer to course pre-requisites for course selection.

Vernon College does not discriminate on the basis of color, race, gender, age, religion, national origin, or disability.