Syllabus for Math 31T Section Beginning Algebra Dr. Moya M Mazorow
2022 Math 31 Beginning Algebra MTWTh 8:15 a.m.- 9:20 a.m. Room Math 32 Final Wed Dec 10, 8-11am
Computer Math Lab, Math 32, Tutoring Math Lab, Math 34 You must arrange one hour each week in
one of the two math labs. Make sure you check in at the computer in Room 34 to receive credit.

Office: MATH 40G Office Hours: MW (Math 40G or W) 925-1045 Th (Math 32) 1050-1150

Voice mail: 310-434-4867 (speak slowly) mazorow_moya@smc.edu This is always the best way to contact
me since I can return emails at any weird hour.

Dept site: http://www.smc.edu/math/default.htm My page: http://homepage.smc.edu/mazorow_moya/

Prerequisites: Completion of Math 84 with a grade of C or better.
Entry Level Skills: Skills it is assumed you know prior to enrollment in this course
• Add, subtract, multiply, divide and exponentiate whole numbers, fractions and decimals and apply
order of operations.
• Demonstrate minimum proficiency in manipulating signed numbers.
• Select and execute the correct operation for an application problem.
• Use prime factoring, Least Common Multiple and Greatest Common Factor on fractions.
• Simplify numerical square roots.
• Apply units of measurement in the solution of arithmetic applications as appropriate.
• Although use of a calculator is a desirable skill, all of the above skills must be demonstrated without
the use of calculator.

Course Description: Topics include: arithmetic operations with real numbers, polynomials, rational
expressions, and radicals; factoring polynomials; linear equations and inequalities in one and two variables;
systems of linear equalities and inequalities in two unknowns; application problems; equations with rational
expressions; equations with radicals; introduction to quadratic equations in one variable.

A text-specific website is available at http://cwx.prenhall.com/bookbind/pubbooks/blitzer7/.

Course Objectives Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Solve linear, quadratic, literal equations, systems of equations and linear inequalities by choosing
an appropriate method.
2. Graph linear equations and inequalities.
3. Simplify exponential expressions.
4. Factor general trinomials at an elementary level.
5. State and apply quadratic formula.
6. Add, subtract, multiply and divide polynomials, square roots and exponential expressions.
7. Simplify complex fractions, square roots and exponential expressions.
8. Solve introductory level equations with rational expressions.
9. Translate and solve algebraic word problems in a single variable.
10. Given the description of a graph of a line, write the equation of the line.
11. Define and use properties of equality and inequality.
12. Recognize and use common mathematical language to describe mathematical processes in either
written or verbal form.
13. Apply units of measurements in the solution of algebraic applications as appropriate.

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory. If you are absent five or more hours I may drop you from the class.
Tardies count as half a day absent. It is your responsibility to know the rules and deadlines of the college.
This information is available on line or in the front of the schedule of classes. It is also your responsibility to
drop yourself (by the end of the eighth week) if you are unhappy with your performance. If you are earning a D
or F at the eighth week I highly encourage you to drop; notice in the rules and deadlines students attending after the eighth week may still drop if they are earning a C or better.

**Student Responsibilities:** Please read and understand It is your responsibility to follow through on the general information and policies outlined in the *Santa Monica College Student Planning Guide.* You will be responsible for reading the textbook sections before coming to class. You should set pagers, cell phones etc to vibrate. Do not answer phones in the classroom; step out into the hall. Homework is to be done daily. You are encouraged to seek help from classmates, friends, the math lab in Math 34, or from me. You should spend at least two hours a day on homework. The presentation of your work is extremely important. All work should be neat, written using complete sentences, be free of spelling errors, and show correct usage of mathematical grammar. It should have your name on it. For example: "2x=8=x=4" would contain an incorrect usage of the = symbol. You could fix this grammatical answer by writing "2x=8 therefore x=4." If a problem is presented as a story problem, your answer must be in a complete sentence and must contain units. For example: "x=4" and "There are four." would not be complete. The answer "There are four dogs." would be complete. Make sure to write your steps in order on your paper. Do not do part of a problem in one corner then some in another then maybe some at the top. Also make sure to be aware of “level” in a problem; $\frac{2}{3}x$ vs $\frac{2}{3x}$ are these all equal? Points are deducted on exams for answers that do not follow these guidelines so start practicing good habits on the homework.

**Lab Work:** You are required to study one hour each week in the Math Lab. You may use either Math Lab 34 where you can get tutoring or Math Lab 32 where you can work on the computers. Failure to complete one hour each week in the lab is grounds for being dropped and will result in you not being able to earn a grade higher than a D in the class.

**Methods of Evaluation:**

- **Hodge podge points:** Homework, classwork, inclass quizzes, online quizzes 15% of your grade
  If we are going to cover section 2.3 in class, then you should read 2.3 before class and after class you should do homework in that section. Do not do homework during classtime. Chapter Reviews will be collected. Reviews not turned in at the beginning of class on the day due will be recorded as a 0. Work must be neat, contain your work not just the answers, and show attempts on all of the assigned problems. Classwork and quizzes will be given periodically. If you are absent on the day they are given or if you fail to turn in yours when they are being collected, your score will be recorded as a 0.

- **Exams 55% of your grade** 9/11, 10/1, 10/22, 11/13, 12/3
  Five exams will be given. There will be no make-up exams; however, if your absence on the day of an exam is caused by an emergency (illness, car problems, etc), contact my voice mail or email that same day and your average on the final will replace the missed exam score. If you fail to contact me the day of the exam your exam score will be recorded as a 0. The final can only replace one missed exam. If you miss two exams then one exam will be recorded as a 0.

- **Final 30% of your grade.** It is cumulative. The cumulative final reflects your overall understanding and retention of the material presented during the term; therefore, if you do not earn more than 65% on the final you will not receive a grade higher than a D in the class. 12/10 8am-11am

**Assignment of overall class grade.**

- If your grade on the final is less than 65% or if you did not complete one hour each week in the math lab for 16 weeks, the highest grade you can earn in the class is a D.

- If your grade on the final is 65% or more and you completed one hour each week in the math lab for all 16 weeks, your class grade will be calculated using your weighted average. 
  Weighted average=(points earned on hodge podge)/(total hodge podge points) *15+( points earned on exams)/(total exam points)*55+ points earned on final)/(total final points).*30. Your grade will be assigned using: A [90,100] B=[80,90) C=[70,80) D=[55,70) F=[0,55)