

# Math 039-74 Fall 2015 Course Syllabus

<b>Instructor:</b>	Terry L. Cox
<b>Class Time:</b>	
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<b>Phone:</b>	734-649-7306
<b>Office:</b>	None. Meet before noon or after 6:00 on Monday and Wednesday. Other days/times by appointment.
<b>Office Hours:</b>	Whenever I am at JC-LISD
<b>MyMathLab ID:</b>	Cox45185
<b>Websites:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lead Faculty YouTube Channel: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/priceallisonr">http://www.youtube.com/priceallisonr</a></li><li>• MyMathLab: <a href="http://www.mymathlab.com">http://www.mymathlab.com</a> (where assignments are located)</li></ul>

## **Required Materials:**

- My Math Lab Student Access Kit
- MAT 039 Coursepack and a LARGE 3-ring binder
- Graphing Calculators (TI-84 preferred)
- **Internet access is required** for this section of MAT 039. Class homework must be completed on a computer with internet access.

## **Recommended Materials:**

- Graph paper
- Ruler or straight edge
- Pencils, large eraser

## **Optional Materials:**

- Textbook (Elementary and Intermediate Algebra: Functions & Authentic Applications, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Author: Jay Lehmann, Publisher: Pearson – the e-text comes with My Math Lab)

**Course Description:** MAT 039 is the study of the following: variables and variable expressions, integers, laws of exponents, linear functions, coordinate graphing, linear inequalities, linear systems, and quadratic functions. Problem solving and mathematical modeling are integrated throughout. Appropriate technology includes a graphing calculator.

**Prerequisite:** A 2.0 in MAT 020 or course placement by exam.

**Course Goals:** The purpose of this course is to develop a progressive understanding of more basic algebraic skills, concepts, and problem solving techniques; to obtain a sense of how and why algebra is used, and to be able to relate these problems and use the learned problem solving techniques to real life applications. Great emphasis will be placed on understanding of terms, concepts, principles and theories rather than cramming and memorization.

### **MAT 039 Core Course Objectives:**

Students completing MAT 039 – Beginning Algebra should be able to:

1. Simplify basic algebraic and exponential expressions using mathematical processes and symbol manipulation.
2. Use algebraic processes to solve linear, quadratic and literal equations and linear systems of equations.
3. Demonstrate understanding of concepts of linear equations by: graphing a linear equation, finding x- and y- intercepts, and finding the slope of a line.
4. Solve application problems using algebraic processes and procedural techniques.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of current technology and its uses and/or scientific issues.

**MAT 039 Associate Degree Outcomes:** All courses at Jackson Community College address one or more of the institutionally defined Associate Degree Outcomes (ADOs). MAT 039 contributes to the following outcomes.

#### **ADO 3: Demonstrate computational skills and mathematical reasoning**

- Demonstrates a basic knowledge of the structure of the real number system.
- Demonstrates computational skills using positive and negative numbers, fractions, and decimals, ratio and percents.
- Demonstrates an understanding of algebra (manipulating algebraic expressions, solving linear equations, applying the rules of exponents), geometry and measurement, data and descriptive statistics.
- Uses and understands basic mathematical terminology.
- Translates situations into mathematical symbols.
- Represents mathematical information symbolically, visually, numerically and/or verbally.
- Understands that connections exist between mathematics and real-world situations.

#### **ADO 7: Rubric for Critical Thinking**

- Incorporates new knowledge with old.
- Converts complex concepts into useful personal language.
- Solves new problems in new contexts.

## Course Requirements:

**In-Class Work, Quizzes, etc.:** There will be frequent in-class assignments (turned in for credit). These may be individual or group assignments, closed or open notes at the instructor's discretion. There may also be additional quizzes posted on MyMathLab for students to take outside of class. **Students that are absent may not make up the missed in-class assignments for any reason.**

### **Online Homework:**

- These assignments must be done outside of class time on a computer with internet access at **MyMathLab** (reachable through [www.mymathlab.com](http://www.mymathlab.com)).
- There is a homework assignment roughly for each section in the course.
- Homework will be due every week, on the first class-day of the week. You can check MyMathLab for particular due dates.
- **You have an unlimited number of tries to do the homework before you submit it** (up until the due date). Thus, all of your homework should receive full credit, if you keep trying until you get a perfect score.
- There are videos available on <http://www.youtube.com/priceallisonr> to help you navigate completing homework assignments, using the help features, and more

**Project:** The project assignment will be done as out-of-class assignment and may pertain to material that we have covered in the past or current material. The assignment will be due on the date specified when the assignment is given and will not be accepted late.

**Exams:** There are no notes on any exam. Exams **may not be made up** except under extreme, well-documented circumstances (final determination is made by the instructor – **contact me immediately!!**) If a make-up test is permitted, it must be completed before the exam is passed out to the class (i.e. the next class period) or a zero will be given for the exam.

**Grading Information:** A 2.0 or "C" is a passing grade. Only courses with passing grades count toward graduation. Other colleges transfer in only courses with passing grades. Many financial aid sources, including most employers, require passing grades. Additionally, earning less than a 2.0 in a class results in being unable to participate in the next level of courses in a discipline which requires this course as a pre-requisite. Registering for the next course sequence without passing the pre-requisite course may result in you being dropped from that class.

<b><u>Grading Scale:</u></b>		<b><u>Grading Policy:</u></b>
90 -100%	4.0	
85 - 89%	3.5	In-Class Work: 5%
80 - 84%	3.0	Online Homework: 10%
75 - 79%	2.5	Quizzes: 10%
70 - 75%	2.0	Projects: 5%
65 - 69%	1.5	Exams: 50%
60 - 64%	1.0	Cumulative Final (ch 1-9): 20%
50 - 59%	0.5	
0 - 49%	0.0	

**Grades:** Your grades will be available in the "Gradebook" area of JetNet. MyMathLab will have your online grades only.

**Intermediate Grading:** To comply with college policy and federal regulations you will receive three intermediate grades during the semester. The grades assigned are letters with the following meanings:

- **V:** Verifies that you are participating and your work so far has been acceptable
- **H:** Means that you are participating, but your work shows that you may require Help in order to complete the class successfully. If you receive an H grade, you will be contacted by the Center for Student Success (located in 125 Bert Walker Hall) and offered tutoring services.
- **Q:** Means that you have quit participating in the course. If you receive a Q grade, you will automatically be withdrawn from the course. A Q grade is normally assigned if you have not submitted work (classwork, exams, participation, etc.) or not attended class for one week ( and have not contacted your instructor regarding your absences.

**Important Dates:** Be sure to check out the JCC Academic Calendar for Project Success Day, Holidays with no classes, last day to withdraw, etc. at [http://www.jccmi.edu/academics/academic\\_calendar.htm](http://www.jccmi.edu/academics/academic_calendar.htm)

**Extra Credit Policy:** There will be no opportunities for extra credit. Your grade is based on your performance in class, not on extras.

**Absence Policy:** Students are expected to attend all class meetings, arriving on time, and staying until the end. We do a variety of in-class activities involving other students and group participation. If absence is unavoidable the student is responsible for obtaining the missed lecture notes from another student. Please remember that office hours are not a replacement for class time. Exams **may not be made up** except under extreme, well-documented circumstances (final determination is made by the instructor – **contact me immediately!!**) Make-up tests must be taken before the exam is passed out to the class (i.e. the next class period) or a zero will be given for that exam.

**Incompletes Policy:** (Excerpt from JCC Policy) "A student may request an incomplete from the instructor. The incomplete will be granted only if the student can provide documentation that his or her work up to that point is sufficient in quality, but lacking in quantity, due to circumstances beyond the student's control. Furthermore, a written plan for making up the missing work within one semester must be completed by the student. Final determination of whether an incomplete will be given is the instructor's decision."

**Academic Honesty Policy:** You are *encouraged* to talk to each other, but all your work must be your **own**. In other words, "group-work" is a great way to learn material, but anything you submit for a grade must be done by you - reflecting your own thought processes, not that of someone else. If I suspect you of academic dishonesty, I will follow JCC's Academic Honesty Policy and take appropriate action up to and including assigning a **failing grade** for the paper, project, report, exam, or the course itself (whichever I deem necessary). The policy can be seen here:

<http://www.jccmi.edu/student-services/catalog/2010-2011/Chapt3.pdf>

**Classroom Behavior Policy: "We know what a person thinks not when he tells us what he thinks, but by his actions." - Issac B. Singer**

**1. Be Responsible:** for your work, for your learning, for your behavior in class, etc.

The online homework and take-home quizzes in particular are going to require great levels responsibility on your part. You will need to stay on top of your schedule and your life to make sure that all coursework is done in a timely fashion.

**2. Be Respectful:** of other students, of the instructor, of the material, of yourself...

Turn off your cell phones and pagers, no chewing tobacco, come on time, stay the full time, be prepared to answer questions and work together.



**3. Contact me immediately if there is a problem:** with the course, material, instructor, students, etc.

# Where to Get Help...

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**Office Hours:** Office hours are there for you to come get help. Please come see me if you need questions answered. Remember, though, that office hours are not a replacement for attending class.

**MyMathLab:** There are videos, extra problems, sample exams, lecture notes, PowerPoint lectures and more available in MyMathLab. It's a great resource!

**Study Plan:** Your MyMathLab Study Plan is an excellent source of additional practice problems for each section. It will update as you complete regularly scheduled assignments such as the Pre-Test, the Chapter Quiz and the Post-Test or by using the Quiz Me option in the Study Plan. Items marked with the  icon indicate areas that need more study. Items marked with the  icon indicate areas that you have mastered.

**Lead Faculty You-Tube Channel:** (<http://www.youtube.com/priceallisonr>) The lead faculty's You-Tube channel contains a variety of videos aimed at discussing content, reviewing for course exams, answering student questions, etc. This channel is a work-in-progress; please check out the selection already available and also consider asking for an additional video to be created in an area for which you need additional resources.

**Center for Student Success:** The Center for Student Success has tutoring available for free to students enrolled in Math 039. You can get help with take-home work, MyMathLab homework, and more. The Center is located in Bert Walker Hall Room 125.

**Math Help Room:** This room is located in 245 McDivitt Hall. SI Leaders are available to answer your questions throughout the day; check the posted sign for a current schedule.

**Each Other:** Get a regular study group. Write down names and numbers of your peers and call on each other when needed!

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## A few more important comments:

1. **How many hours a week will this class take?** As it is a 4-credit, 15-week course in a regular semester, it is expected that you will spend **at least 16 hours a week on this class**. Past students have warned me to tell you that this is a course that really will take that much time.
2. **Getting Help IN MyMathLab!!** There are tons of videos, powerpoint lectures, and other items ALREADY loaded into MyMathLab under "Multimedia Library". Don't be afraid to use them!
3. **Getting help WITH MyMathLab!!** If you need help with MyMathLab, contact their technical support team at 1-800-677-6337 or visit [www.mymathlab.com](http://www.mymathlab.com) and click the "Support" tab.