Department of Mathematics & Statistics
Concordia University

MATH 200
Fundamental Concepts of Algebra
Fall 2014

Instructor*: _____

Office/Tel No.: _____

Office Hours: _____

*Students should get the above information from their instructor during class time. The instructor is the person to contact should there be any questions about the course.

Course Examiner: Dr. N. Hardy

Text: *An Introduction to Algebra,* Hardy, N. (2014). Kendall Hunt Publishing Company.

Credit: This is an introductory course in Algebra. Students with credits for any Concordia Math course will not receive credit for this course.

Moodle Site: Information pertaining to your section will be provided by your instructor. General information pertaining to the course (such as deadlines for assignments, dates for midterm, alternate, final exam, etc.) will be posted in the Moodle Meta Site of the course.

Office Hours: Your professor will announce her/his office hours during which she/he will be available to give a reasonable amount of help. However, if you missed a class, it is not reasonable to expect your professor to cover the missed material for you.

Tutorials: The material in this course requires a lot of practice. There is not enough class time to do all the examples and problems needed to learn the material thoroughly. Therefore, the Department organizes special **Tutorials** conducted once per week for one hour for every section of this course to provide additional support to students outside the lecture room environment. Tutorials are conducted by graduate students who will help with solving problems on the topics learned in class that week, with particular emphasis on the material that students may have difficulties with in this course. Students are strongly encouraged to participate and be active at these problem-solving sessions. They are an important new resource to help you succeed in this course.

Math Help Centre: In addition to Tutorial sessions, a Math Help Centre staffed by graduate students is available. The schedule of its hours of operation and its location will be posted in the Department.

Assignments: Students are expected to submit assignments online using **WeBWorK** (see below). Late assignments **will not** be accepted. Working regularly on the assignments is essential for success in this course. Students are also strongly encouraged to do as many problems on their own as their time permits from the list of recommended problems included in this outline as well as the practice problems in WeBWorK. A solutions manual for all odd-numbered questions is packaged with the textbook.

WeBWorK: Every student will be given access to an online system called **WeBWorK**. The system provides you with many exercises and practice problems. Students will use this system to do **online assignments**. In addition, before the midterm test and a few weeks before the end of the course, a number of practice problems will be posted in WeBWorK to help you review the material. It is still essential that you work on the recommended problems from the textbook – see below.

Calculators: Only calculators approved by the Department are permitted in the midterm test and final examination. You will need a sticker in your calculator certifying it is a permitted one. See www.mathstat.concordia.ca for more information.

Midterm Test: There will be one midterm test**.** It will be held on **Sunday, October 19, 2014 at 2:00 P.M.** Students who will not be able to write the test that day for a valid reason, e.g. religious or illness (medical note is required), may write an alternate midterm test on **Saturday, October 25, 2014 at 10:00 A.M.**
NOTE: It is the Department's policy that tests missed for any reason, including illness, cannot be made up. If you miss both the midterm and alternate test because of illness (a medical note is required) the final exam can count for 90% of your final grade; the remaining 10% will be determined by the WeBWorK assignments.

Final Exam: The final examination will be three hours long and will cover all the material in the course.
NOTE: Students are responsible for finding out the date and time of the final exam once the schedule is posted by the Examinations Office. Any conflict or problems with the scheduling of the final exam must be reported to the Examinations Office, **not** to your instructor. It is the Department's policy and the Examinations Office's policy that **students are to be available until the end of the final examinations period**. Conflicts due to travel plans will **not** be accommodated.

Grading Scheme: The final grade will be based, in all cases, on the **higher** of the two options:

a) 10% for the assignments,
    25% for the midterm test,
    65% for the final exam.

b) 10% for the assignments,
    10% for the midterm test,
    80% for the final exam.

IMPORTANT: THERE IS <u>NO</u> "100% FINAL EXAM" OPTION IN THIS COURSE.

Topics	Week
Addition and subtraction Products and quotients The real line	1 (Sept 2)
Fractions	2 (Sept 8)
Natural and integer exponents Order of operations	3 (Sept 15)
Linear expressions and linear equations	4 (Sept 22)
Systems of linear equations	5 (Sept 29)
Linear inequalities	6 (Oct 6)
Midterm review	7 (Oct 13)
Midterm	Sunday (Oct 19) 2PM
Quadratic expressions and square radicals Revisiting the order of operations	8 (Oct 20)
Quadratic equations	9 (Oct 27)

Radicals and non-integer exponents	10 (Nov 3)
Polynomial expressions and polynomial equations	11 (Nov 10)
Rational expressions and equations	12 (Nov 17)
Final review	13 (Nov 24)

<u>Important:</u> The midterm and final exams will be based on **all** the problems in the textbook **and** the problems on **all** the WeBWorK assignments.