

Syllabus
Beginning Algebra
MA090-02

Course: CRN 80846 MA 090, 4 Credits

Time/ Location: M, T, W, R 12:00-12:50; HRDN 111B

Term: Fall 2024

Instructor: Steven H. Annelin

Email: sannelin@nmu.edu

Office Hours: M, T, W, R from 9:00 to 10:00, or by appointment. Please email in advance if you can't make my office hours. I can stay after class for a few minutes to answer quick questions, but I have another class right after this one, so if you need more time please come to my office.

Required Supplies: The materials for your course is now available in digital format through the LMS, and the cost will be reflected on your student account. **YOU DO NOT NEED TO PURCHASE THE TEXTBOOK;** it's included online with Aleks. To access your book and homework, go to www.aleks.com, select SIGN UP (New Student) and enter our class code from Educat.

Websites used regularly in this class:

Educat: educat.nmu.edu Course documents, gradebook, discussion forums

Aleks: www.aleks.com Homework, computation quizzes, practice exams, exams, ebook

Course Description and Learning Outcomes

MA090 Beginning Algebra: The study of linear expressions and equations, inequalities, polynomials, factoring, and an introduction to quadratic expressions and equations. Emphasis on factoring.

1. Solve linear equations in one variable, including clearing fractions and decimals
2. Solve and graph linear inequalities in one variable. Use interval notation
3. Graph and interpret linear equations, including the slope, y-intercept, x and y intercepts
4. Determine equations of lines given minimal information from one or two points, slope, and/or a parallel or perpendicular line
5. Solve systems of linear equations
6. Apply exponent rules to algebraic expressions
7. Use order of operations to simplify and perform operations on algebraic expressions
8. Factor the GCF from polynomials
9. Factor four-term polynomial by grouping
10. Factor quadratic equations using the AC-method, including when the lead coefficient is greater than one
11. Factor the difference of two squares
12. Factor perfect square trinomials
13. Factor the sum and difference of cubes
14. Solve equations using the zero product property
15. Solve applied problems such as applications of linear equations, system of linear equations, Pythagorean Theorem, geometry, mixture, and quadratic equations

Prerequisites: C- grade or better in **MA080** or satisfactory score on math placement exam.

Technical skills: Student must be able to navigate websites including Educat & Aleks. They must use and check their @nmu.edu email daily.

Technology requirements: Computer with internet access and a scientific calculator

Grades: Grades are based on the following scale

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
0-59%	F

Your grade has the following components:

Aleks Homework	25%
Exams	40%
Final Exam	30%
Attendance/Participation	5%

Aleks Homework: Homework is done in Aleks. You have unlimited attempts until the due date and time. The Aleks program will not allow you to work beyond the due date and time, but our class TA Audree Martin, or myself, has the ability to grant extensions. Please note: I have given ample time to complete assignments and do not have due dates that are unreasonable, so please stay on top of homework and do not ask for several extensions due to procrastination!

Practice Exams: Take in Aleks program. Show work for every problem on your own paper. Number every problem, and keep your work tidy. These are excellent resources for the exams.

Exams: These will **NOT** be done on Aleks in class. You will be completing these on a paper copy, with all work shown. **PLEASE USE PENCIL FOR ALL EXAMS!**

Final exam: This is covering all of the material completed through the semester. As with all exams, please neatly include all of your work. The final exam schedule can be found on the NMU website under Academic Calendars.

Attendance/Participation: Attendance is **required** and factored into your grade at the end of the semester. IF you have a reason for an extended absence, please communicate with us so we can help you stay on track.

For written work (quizzes, exams, and final exams) you are graded not only on correctness, but also on clarity of work. If I can't read your writing, then a correct answer **will not** get you full credit. You must show all steps. Just giving the answer will not earn full credit. Word problems can often be solved by just "thinking" about it, but you must show work.

TA: Audree Martin is our class TA and will meet with you individually, or in small groups. Just email or talk to her in class. Her job is to help improve student success. She may also be holding review sessions for exams, so pay attention to announcements in Educat.

Disability needs: If you have a need for disability-related accommodations or services, please inform the Coordinators of Disability Services in the Dean of Students Office at 2001 C. B.

Hedcock Building (906-227-1737 or disability@nmu.edu). Reasonable and effective accommodations and services will be provided to students if requests are made in a timely manner, with appropriate documentation, in accordance with federal, state, and university guidelines.

Academic Integrity: Students are expected to do their own work and follow the university academic honesty policy. This policy can be found in the student handbook. See link here: <http://www.nmu.edu/dso/studenthandbook>

Late work: If you need extensions on additional assignments, message Audree for the extra time.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Drop: Last day to drop a class with no course record and a full refund can be found using the following link: <http://www.nmu.edu/records/adddropprocedure>

Withdrawals: Last day for course withdrawal is typically the last Friday of the semester by 5:00 pm. I will recommend withdrawal for any student earning below 60%. A W grade and an F grade have the same effect on your full-time status. The difference is that an F grade hurts your GPA, but a W grade does not. It always benefits you to get a W, instead of an F. Withdrawal procedure: <http://www.nmu.edu/records/node/19>

Privacy Statement and Accessibility for www.aleks.com https://www.aleks.com/privacy_statement.
<https://www.aleks.com/highered/math/accessibility>

Privacy Statement and Accessibility for www.zoom.us <https://zoom.us/privacy>,
<https://zoom.us/accessibility>

Technical support with Aleks: <https://mhedu.force.com/aleks/s/>

There are many resources available to help you succeed in this class and as a student.

Student Handbook: <https://www.nmu.edu/dso/studenthandbook>

Health Center <http://webb.nmu.edu/HealthCenter/>

Online Student Services <http://www.nmu.edu/online/>

Computer Help Desk (IT) <http://it.nmu.edu/helpdesk>

Disability Services <http://www.nmu.edu/disabilityservices/home-page>

Veterans Services <http://www.nmu.edu/veterans/veteran-student-services>

Dean of Students <http://www.nmu.edu/dso/home-page>

Olson Library <http://library.nmu.edu/>

Counseling Center <http://www.nmu.edu/counselingandconsultation/home-page>

Writing Center <http://www.nmu.edu/writingcenter/home-page>

Financial Aid <http://www.nmu.edu/financialaid/home>