

**Syllabus**  
**Intermediate Algebra**  
MA 100, 4 Credits

**Time/Location:**      Section 04 (80216) 12:00-12:50 JAMR 3317  
                                 Section 05 (80215) 1:00-1:50 JAMR 3317

**Term:** Fall 2025

**Instructor:** Mrs. Jennifer Vollenweider (Mrs. V)

**E-Mail:** [jvollenw@nmu.edu](mailto:jvollenw@nmu.edu)

**Office Hours (JAMR 2219):**      M-Th: 8:15-8:50  
   MWR: 11:00-11:50  
   \*Additional times by appointment

**Required Supplies:** Aleks 360 access code, 18 weeks Higher Education, ebook included

**\*Optional Textbook:** Beginning and Intermediate Algebra, 5e, Miller, O'Neill, Hyde

**Websites for this class:**

Educator: [educat.nmu.edu](http://educat.nmu.edu) Course documents, gradebook, discussion forums

Aleks: [www.aleks.com](http://www.aleks.com) Homework, computation quizzes, practice exams, exams, ebook

CircleIn: <https://app.circleinapp.com/>

**Prerequisites:** Satisfactory score on placement exam or MA090 (C- or better)

**Course Description and Learning Outcomes:**

MA100 Intermediate Algebra: The study of rational, radical, and quadratic expressions, equations, and functions, including graphing basic functions, domain, and range. Emphasis on quadratic functions and an introduction to exponential and logarithmic functions.

1. Perform operations on polynomials, including long division
2. Factor polynomials, including ac-method, sum and difference of cubes
3. Solve equations using the zero-product property
4. Solve systems of linear equations, focusing on applications
5. Evaluate, perform operations on, and simplify rational expressions
6. Solve equations with rational expressions
7. Graph and interpret basic functions to include linear, quadratic, cubic, absolute value, square root function, exponential and logarithmic. Include domain and range in interval notation.
8. Translate basic graphs
9. Perform operations on and compose functions
10. Solve and graph linear absolute value equations
11. Solve inequalities. Include compound, polynomial, rational and absolute value
12. Graph linear inequalities in two dimensions
13. Evaluate, perform operations, and simplify radical expressions
14. Solve equations with radical expressions. Include complex and extraneous solutions
15. Solve quadratic equations by square root method, completing the square, and quadratic formula. Include complex solutions.
16. Use properties of logarithms to simplify expressions and solve equations
17. Solve applied problems such as those using systems of linear equations, quadratic, rational and radical equations, problems of variation, geometry and basic exponential problems

**Technology Requirements and Technical Skills:** Scientific calculator. \*TI-30 Series is recommended; other scientific calculators as approved by the instructor. Graphing calculators are not allowed. Students must be able to navigate websites including Educat and Aleks. Students should use and check their @nmu.edu email daily.

**Grades:** Grades are based on the following scale

93-100%	A	80-83%	B-	67-69%	D+
90-92%	A-	77-79%	C+	64-66%	D
87-89%	B+	74-76%	C	60-63%	D-
84-86%	B	70-73%	C-	0-59%	F

Your grade has the following components:

Attendance	5%
Aleks Homework	10%
Quizzes	20%
Tests	35%
Final Exam	30%

**Attendance:** Arriving between 1 and 5 minutes late is considered tardy. Accruing 5 tardies will count as one absence. If you are tardy by more than 5 minutes, you will be considered absent. Extenuating circumstances may excuse your attendance—these circumstances would include student athlete travels (documentation submitted at least two weeks in advance) and absences due to a sickness or emergency which should be communicated as soon as possible.

You are given 2 “free” unexcused absences per semester. Beyond those 2, any unexcused/undocumented absences will affect your grade. To score your attendance/participation grade, the percentage of class periods you have attended is calculated.

**Aleks Homework:** Homework is done in the online program that corresponds with your text: 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. Contact myself or your TA if you need an extension on any assignments.

**Quizzes:** Completed during scheduled class time using paper and pencil. Students may work in small groups if desired. Work must be shown. Quizzes cannot be made up unless extenuating circumstances apply. The lowest quiz score will be dropped from the final grade.

**Tests:** Completed during scheduled class time using paper and pencil.

For written work (quizzes, tests, and final exam) 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.

**Final exam day/time (2 hour time allotment):**

Section 04 (12:00)	Monday, December 8	12:00-1:50 pm	JAMR 3317
Section 05 (1:00)	Wednesday, December 10	12:00-1:50 pm	JAMR 3317

**Communication with classmates and teacher:**

- Communication via e-mail must be done through your NMU address; I will not respond to communication sent from any other e-mail addresses. Please remember that you should address me in a professional manner (i.e. Mrs. Vollenweider or Mrs. V) and sign using your full name. Please include the class and class time that you are in in the subject line, as I teach multiple sections and it is easier for me to access your information.
- Always remember to use professional language, spelling, and punctuation within electronic communications. No abbreviations or sarcasm. When communicating electronically, people cannot necessarily interpret sarcasm and may not know abbreviations/acronyms.

**General Student Expectations:**

- \*My classroom is a place where you will be treated with respect. In this course, each voice has something of value to contribute. Please take care to respect the different experiences, beliefs, and values expressed by students, faculty and staff.
- Computers are to remain closed unless instructed to open them by the teacher.
- There are no cell phones allowed in class. You are in a professional setting and are expected to act as such. If a cell phone is out during class time, you will be given one warning, and after that you will be asked to leave class.
- Headphones/earbuds are prohibited during lecture times. You will receive one warning and then be asked to leave class.

**TA:** Your TA is here to help support you and your learning throughout the semester. Do not hesitate to reach out. TA office hours and locations will be posted and kept updated in Educat.

- Section 04 TA (12:00): Audree Martin [audmarti@nmu.edu](mailto:audmarti@nmu.edu)
- Section 05 TA (1:00): Aadison Veraghen [averaghe@nmu.edu](mailto:averaghe@nmu.edu)

**Additional Support:** Please do not hesitate to reach out to myself or the TA if you are confused or feel yourself falling behind. We want you to learn and be successful in this course. Office hours are available for your benefit. Sometimes 10 minutes of one-on-one time helps you more than 50 minutes in a full classroom.

**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>

**Important dates:**

**Add:** Last day to add a class is **Thursday, August 28 by 5:00 pm.**

**Drop:** Last day to drop a class with no course record and 100% refund is **Tuesday, September 2, 5:00 pm.** Drop procedure: <http://www.nmu.edu/records/adddropprocedure>

**Withdrawals:** Last day for course withdrawal is **Friday, December 5, 5:00 pm.** I recommend withdrawal for any student earning below 60%. A W grade and an F grade have the same effect on your full-time status and may affect your financial aid. The difference is that an F grade affects 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>

**Disability needs:** If you have a need for disability-related accommodations or services, please inform the Coordinator of Disability Services in the Dean of Students Office at 2001 C. B. Hedgcock Building (227-1737 or [disserv@nmu.edu](mailto:disserv@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.