General Information

Instructor: Maria Belk (mbelk@bard.edu)
Office: Academic Resources Center, Stone Row basement
Office Hours: Mon & Tues 6–7pm in RKC 111, Wed. 2–4pm in BARC; and by appointment
Text: Maran Illustrated Effortless Algebra
Webpage: http://math.bard.edu/mbelk/arc150/
Calculator: You will need either a basic scientific calculator or a graphing calculator.

Course Description

ARC 150 provides a review of the algebra used in math, science, and social science courses. It is designed for students who would like to improve their algebra skills while taking or in preparation to take an introductory math, science, economics or statistics course. Topics include linear equations and their graphs, quadratic equations, fractions, rational expressions, and exponents.

This course does NOT fulfill the math/computing distribution requirement. Taking this course will make students eligible for Q-courses (courses that require passing the Q-exam or Part I of the Math Placement Diagnostic).

Class Format

The class will be a mix of interactive lecture and group work.

- In the first half of class, we will go over some important algebra topics.
- The second half of class will be spent working in groups on a worksheet related to these topics. The worksheet will involve some basic computational problems, along with some more challenging problems (such as word problems).
- A math tutor will be available to help answer questions during the second half of class.
- There will occasionally be a quiz at the end of class (see the schedule).
Assignments and Grades

This course can only be taken pass/fail. To pass the course, you need to successfully complete all of the following:

- Eight worksheets.
- Five homework assignments.
- Two quizzes.
- The Final Exam.

Worksheets: We will spend part of each class working in groups on worksheets. There will be at least nine worksheets, and you need to complete at least eight of these worksheets. If you miss a class, you can download the worksheet from the course webpage and turn it in at the next class.

Homework: There will be at least six homework assignments, and you will need to complete at least five of these assignments. Some homework assignments will be on Moodle.

Quizzes and Final Exam: We will have two in-class quizzes and a final exam, which will test the basic skills from class. Practice quizzes and a practice exam will be available beforehand. Since the quizzes and exam will test basic skills, a score of 80% or higher will be required to pass. You will be able to re-take a different version of the quiz or exam if you do not pass the first time.

Resources

- Math Study Room: Sunday through Wednesday, 7pm–10pm in RKC 111

  The Math Study Room is staffed by undergraduate math majors who are available to answer your questions. You can go to the study room to work on your homework, and then ask for help when you get stuck.

- Dedicated Tutor: Caleb Parsons, a junior math major, is the dedicated tutor for this course. He will help out during class, and he will also be available for individual tutoring if you need additional help beyond my office hours and the Math Study Room. To request individual tutoring, contact me or Caleb after class, send me an e-mail, or stop by BARC.
## Tentative Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Mon 8/31 Solving Equations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Mon 9/7 Fractions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Mon 9/14 Equations of Lines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Mon 9/21 Solving Systems of Equations, Quiz 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Mon 9/28 Quadratic Equations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Mon 10/5 Quadratic Equations (Part 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Mon 10/19 Exponents, Quiz 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Mon 10/26 Radicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Mon 11/2 Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Mon 11/9 Final Exam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Amy Shein (ashein@bard.edu) to determine if you may be eligible.