



LEFT: DIFFICULTY, IN MAKING
CALCULATION

Math 212-25 Elementary Algebra

Fall Quarter 2015

Course #01627

- **Text.** Blitzer, *Intermediate Algebra*, 5th ed.
also known as *De Anza College*, 2nd custom ed.
 - **Instructor.** Andrew Phelps
 - **Class Hours and Location.** Tu/Th 1:30PM to 3:45PM in Room **ADMIN-103**
 - **Office Hour** Tuesday, Thursday 12-1 location *Winery 21*
 - **Communication.** 24-Hour Voice Mail *not available*.
- If you can't come to class, send an email



My e-mail address is: math_anxiety@yahoo.com



The Course Web Site is:

<http://batstar.net/safety>

USE 'ADDRESS' (URL) NOT 'SEARCH'

Check it frequently for changes and/or additions

The Course

- **Calculator.** You need a *scientific calculator*. A *graphing utility* will be helpful, but is not required. If you wish to purchase a graphing utility, the departmental recommends at De Anza the **TI-83** or **TI-84**. That will be used in classes further along in the sequence
- **The Course.** Includes linear equations and inequalities, graphing, systems of linear equations, polynomials, factoring, square roots, quadratic equations
- **Homework.** Homework (*not to be handed in*) is assigned daily, and available on the Course Web Site. *Doing the homework is key to learning the material. The best thing is to do everything that is assigned, and more* You may be responsible for occasional *Spot Quizzes* which are quizzes testing you on 1-2 current homework problems (no make-up on Quizzes). There will be four (4) short homework sets drawn from the assigned problems, that are handed in and graded
- **Math Review.** Initial course project, talking yourself, for the purpose of strengthening your engagement in algebra
- **Class Presentation.** Lecture in front of the class once on a pre-assigned homework problem
- **Attendance.** Missing the first day, or twice during the first week, is grounds for drop. Missing class more than two (2) times after the first two days of class, without adequate explanation, will be considered grounds for grade reduction/failure. If you *need* to miss class, send me an [e-mail message](#). I take missing class very seriously.

In addition, tardiness and leaving class early w/o permission will be counted as 1/2 a missed class



BAD BEHAVIOR

raw score contributions

unit(s)	points
4 HW Sets @2%	8
Class Presentation	2
Math Review	3
Spot Quizzes	4
1 Quiz @5%	5
3 Exams @14%	42
Final Exam	30
Subjective	6

- **Exams.** There will be one quiz, then three (3) exams and then the final exam. Because the class period is more than two hours long, it is necessary to have a lecture period the same day as an exam. **Note:** Attendance will be taken for that *lecture period*
- **Grading.** The grades will be based on a “raw score” of between **0** and **100**. These will be “curved” by giving students with similar raw scores the same grade. **Note:** This does *not* necessarily mean that “90=‘A.’” Instead, it depends on the raw score distribution
- **Extra credit.** Various extra credit assignments will be made available. These are intended to help if your final grade is at a *boundary*, such as “‘B-’/‘C+’”
- **Subjective Grade.** Based on constructive class participation. **4** is the *default* grade. Personal attacks on the instructor or other students warrants an automatic **0**. Helpful behavior in *group learning* situations is valued. **CIVILITY IS CONSIDERED VERY IMPORTANT**
 - *Stepping Out* of class is restricted. One student at a time may step out; a list will be kept.
 - *Cellphones* and *iPods* are not permitted in class. Going outside to answer the cellphone is forbidden. In emergency, you should explain the incident to the class. And keep your cellphone turned off.
 - *Use of cellphone (even as calculator) during an exam may constitute ground for credit reduction*
 - *Discipline* in class also matters. Students should avoid persistent complaints that we “go too fast” or not fast enough,” or the like. Differences should not be argued on *class time*
- **Student Success.** I take student success seriously. Course activities aimed to help students “think mathematically” will be offered for extra credit. An alternative student success activity involving “community engagement” will also be offered

Plagiarism. You are expected to do your own work. Other students may not share your work before hand-in. The appearance of cheating is grounds for failing a test/assignment or for the course itself, at the discretion of the instructor

Disclaimer. This policy may be changed, in which case the class will be notified