NEW JERSEY CITY UNIVERSITY
MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT
ACADEMIC FOUNDATIONS
MA095 BASIC COLLEGE MATH SYLLABUS

Semester __________________Section _____________
Instructor _________________Phone _______________ (Adjuncts enter 201-200-3201)
Office Hours ________________Office________(Adjuncts indicate availability)
E-Mail Address________________________


I. Description
• Contents: This course develops computational skills involving operations and applications of whole numbers, integers and rational numbers with an emphasis on the use of calculators. Short introductions to the areas of algebra, geometry, statistics and graphical interpretation are included.
• Credits: Basic College Math is a 3 (non-college) credit course.
• Placement: Placement into this course is determined by the results of Academic Advisement Placement Testing, by the results of the Math Department Confirming Exam, or by a test customized by the Math chair. The last two options are at the discretion of the Math chair.
• Withdrawal Policy: Withdrawal from this course requires special permission from the Dean of Arts & Sciences.

II. Goals
1. To improve the students’ ability to perform operations on whole numbers, fractions, and decimals, both manually and using a calculator.
2. To increase the students’ ability to solve basic linear equations.
3. To reinforce students’ knowledge and use of ratios, proportions, and percents.
4. To increase the students’ ability to solve reading problems.
5. To increase the students’ knowledge of the basic concepts of geometry.
6. To reinforce students’ ability to operate with signed numbers.
7. To prepare students for Algebra for College.

III. Contents
Whole Numbers, Fractions and Mixed Numbers, Decimals, Ratio and Proportion, Percent, Basic Geometry, Basic Statistics, Signed number arithmetic, Solving linear equations and applications

IV. Evaluation
There are Two ways to pass this course. The first way is the module tests way. There will be three of these tests. Each test will have 15 problems worth one point each. Partial credit will not be given. Calculators may be used. All work must be shown. Each module test covers the material since the previous test. The second way for a student to pass the course is by taking a final exam, which will be similar to the
confirming exam. Each of 30 problems is worth one point. Partial credit will not be given. Calculators may be used. You may pass the course either way. Those who pass by the module method do not have to take the final. Students who fail by the module method will still be allowed to take the final; and if they pass the final they pass the course. Instructors may not impose additional requirements for passing this course. You are responsible for learning all the course material, as indicated on the syllabus.

**Starting from spring 2011, we will count homework towards the grading system.**

The following table indicates how the students are to be graded based on their cumulative scores:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Module 1</th>
<th>Module 2</th>
<th>Module 3</th>
<th>Homework</th>
<th>Final</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For BCM, there are total of 540 homework problems assigned. Here is the grading grid:

1. For homework part:

   | Points | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| # of homework problems done | 54 | 108 | 162 | 216 | 270 | 324 | 351 | 378 | 405 | 432 |

2. To calculate the average, use \((M1 + M2 + M3) \times 90\% + \text{points of homework} \times 40\%\), where \(M1, M2, M3\) mean the scores of Module 1, Module 2 and Module 3.

3. Then use the average to give the letter grade according to the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>0 – 31</th>
<th>32 – 33</th>
<th>34 – 35</th>
<th>36 – 37</th>
<th>38 – 39</th>
<th>40 – 41</th>
<th>42 – 43</th>
<th>44 – 45</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
<td>must take final exam</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students who do not pass through the modules must take the final exam. This is how they are to be graded:

1. To calculate the average, use \(F \times 90\% + \text{points of homework} \times 30\%\), where \(F\) means the score of final.

2. Then use the average to give the letter grade according to the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>0 – 18</th>
<th>19 – 22</th>
<th>23 – 25</th>
<th>26 – 28</th>
<th>29 – 30</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
<td>R or F</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• The **R** is for students taking BCM for the first time who did not pass. Students who receive a grade of R will be required to repeat the course the next semester.

• The **F** must be given to any students who repeated the course and did not pass. Such students are subject to dismissal from the university regardless of GPA.

• Approval of **W** comes by recommendation from the instructor and the AF Coordinator to Dept Chair, then to Dean A&S, and finally to the registrar. W’s are not to be given except in exceptional circumstances in AF courses.

• Students who did not pass by the module method could not get grade higher than B by taking the final exam.

• Students who passed the module tests and still want to take the final can not get grades higher than B.

• **The module tests will be given on the following dates in this class:**

V. **Test method**

Starting from spring 2008, we adopted the mymathlab for all the module tests and the final. In order to use mymathlab, you **must** have a password. Please be aware of the following situation:

1. If you buy the used book, the cost is approximately $70. That price does not cover the password. And you need to buy the password for $75 online at **mymathlab.com** or through the university bookstore.

   If you buy the new book, the cost is approximately $94. The password is bundled with the new book for free. (This is a better deal than the used book + password combination)

2. The password is good for 12 months.

VI. **Attendance**

   Any student who is absent for 6 class hours without any acceptable documented reason will **NOT** be allowed to take the final.

   **All the module tests and final MUST be taken in the lab. If you take it somewhere else, your grade will not be counted.**

VII. **Tutoring**

   Free tutoring is available for this course. Information is available at K506.

   **Revised Jan, 2012**