Welcome to College Algebra at Broward College. You are about to depart on a unique journey that will require extreme dedication and self-discipline. I will be your guide throughout this process. I have been teaching and tutoring math for over 20 years and I am looking forward to assisting you through this online course.

What makes this course so unique? The coursework will be presented through an educational program called ALEKS. ALEKS is an online system that uses ongoing assessments to create individualized lesson plans using an efficient and effective adaptive assessment tool that quickly and precisely determines what each individual student knows. Based on the assessment data, the system creates a learning plan which includes explanations, videos, animations, and algorithmically generated problems.

What does this really mean to you? This course gives each of you an opportunity to catch up in math. How many times have you looked at a math problem and although you think you understand the new work, you are stuck on the old stuff. How frustrating is that? How often do you get the opportunity to fill in the missing pieces without being penalized? Well now is your chance. In this course, I am going to let you fill in the gaps while doing the new work.

But there’s a catch! You are going to have to work hard. You should expect to spend a minimum of 8 to 10 hours each week to be successful in this course. Depending on how much material you are missing will be how much harder you have to work, but it will be worth it. Are you willing to do that?

You will be required to exercise a certain degree of self-learning throughout the semester. The material covered in this course is the same material covered in a traditional face-to-face class, plus catch-up work. You MUST have good math skills, be an independent learner, be able to use a computer, e-mail, and the Internet. Although there will be weekly meetings for questions and answers, as well as test reviews, most of your learning will be online. So this is very similar to an online class. Online classes are difficult, so please do not take this class unless you are fully committed and ready to work.

Learning online, especially math, is not for everyone. Please take the online readiness quiz before deciding to enroll in this course. This may help you decide if this online course is right for you.

Please read the rest of this page in order to prepare for orientation. If you have any questions regarding this course, please e-mail me at jharris1@broward.edu.

I look forward to working with you should you decide this course is right for YOU.

Sincerely,

Professor Jody Harris
Mandatory Course Meeting Dates

**ALL Thursday class meetings are mandatory for ALL students.**

**All tests must be taken at the ASC Testing Center on Central Campus.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXAMS</th>
<th>DATES AVAILABLE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TEST 1</td>
<td>Tuesday, September 19 – Thursday, September 22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEST 2</td>
<td>Tuesday, October 17 – Thursday, October 20</td>
<td>Building 17 – Blended testing center (2\textsuperscript{nd} floor in the Library)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEST 3</td>
<td>Tuesday, November 21 – Thursday, November 24</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>FINAL EXAM</td>
<td>Monday, December 6 – Thursday, December 9</td>
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All students enrolled in this course MUST take the final exam in person.

⚠️ Failure to take the final exam will result in an "F" for the course.

Course Materials

**NO PHYSICAL TEXTBOOK IS REQUIRED FOR THIS CLASS** (an e-book comes with the ALEKS 360 course).

Access to BConline

Access to **ALEKS 360 18 week code** (not just ALEKS) which can be purchased online during the orientation or at the central campus bookstore.

You must have access to a computer and the Internet (a high speed Internet connection is recommended).

Calculator

The **only Calculator allowed** in this class is the

**Texas Instruments: TI-30X IIS or TI-30X IIB**

Computer Speakers or Headset

You MUST have a computer headset or speakers to listen to the assigned videos.
**Methods of Instruction**

This course uses ALEKS for instruction, homework, and grades; and BConline for discussions and e-mail. Your login ID and password for D2L is the same as your BC username (e-mail address without @mail.broward.edu) and BC password.

1) Students must check their D2L e-mail **every day**. Messages via e-mails will be sent out to students on a regular basis. It is the students’ responsibility to make sure they receive these messages.

2) Hardware and software requirements must be met. Click on the [Browser and Computer Checkup](#) link to review the requirements.

3) The following link at [e-learning @ BC](#) provides useful information to those who are taking online classes for the first time.

4) Students must have a class average of at least 70% to pass this course and move on to the next course.

**BConline Login**

Students must know their BC e-mail address. All other information needed will be provided once you log on to Desire2Learn (D2L). To obtain your BC e-mail address, go to the [BC homepage](#) and click on [MyBC Login](#) from the pull down menu under Login on the upper right. After signing in using your student number, there will be a box on the right with all your information.

Once you know your BC e-mail address, you are ready to log in to D2L. To access D2L, click on the “BC Online – D2L” link from the pull down menu under Login on the upper right.

This will take you to a page that you can read should you have problems with D2L, but for now, just click [Login](#). Your User Name is the part of your e-mail address before the “@” symbol. Your password is the 2-digit month and 4-digit year of your birth.
You must go to D2L on **August 22nd** to start the orientation process. 
Orientation ends **August 24th** by 11:59 PM

⚠️ **Failure to complete the ENTIRE orientation by August 24 will result in immediate withdrawal from the class.**

⚠️ **The orientation takes about 3 hours to complete and does contain an on-campus component.**

### Course Information

This Intermediate Algebra course is a continuation of algebra containing topics such as factoring; operations with rational expressions; absolute value; exponents, radicals, and roots; complex numbers; linear and quadratic equations and linear inequalities; graphs; systems of equations; and functions, all with applications throughout the course. A student must achieve at least a “C” in order to enroll in the next level Math course. Click on the link to view the [complete course outline](#).

The ALEKS part of the course will be online and is designed for motivated students who are willing to complete assignments on time. There will be online activities for you to be engaged in throughout the semester.

**You will be required to come to campus to take 3 proctored tests and a final exam during a pre-determined time span that usually runs over a 3 day period.**

BC recommends that students use a DSL, broadband, or Ethernet Internet connection to make their online experience less problematic. Tests will be open for approximately three days for students who have completed all of the corresponding homework and practice reviews by the specified due dates. Tests are administered in the Academic Success Center (ASC) located on the second floor of the library in **Building 17**.

### Grading

The grade for this class will be calculated as follows:

1. 20% - Average of 10 online intermediate weekly objectives
2. 8%  - Average of 4 online practice reviews for tests
3. 30% - Average of 3 proctored tests taken in person at the Blended Testing Center in Building 17 on Central
4. 7%  - Average of best 14 out of 15 online weekly “Pre-Class Assignments”
5. 15% - Average of 15 classroom weekly classroom quizzes from your “Pre-Class Assignments”
6. 20% - Cumulative Final Exam taken in person at the Blended Testing Center in Building 17 on Central Campus

**Grading Scale**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90 – 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80 – 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70 – 79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60 – 69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0 – 59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Contact Information

E-mail: [jharris1@broward.edu](mailto:jharris1@broward.edu)

### Helpful Links

- [BConline Login Page](#)
- [Student e-learning Resources](#)
- Contact the [Helpdesk](#) if you experience login difficulties.
Disability Services