

NIGHT ALGEBRA - Course Syllabus

Jan 6 – Mar 12, 2020

Mon-Wed-Thurs 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Instructor: Michael Smith

Course Description

This is a 10-week course to learn and review the fundamental concepts of Algebra. There is no letter grade for this course, but you are expected to pass the final test to complete the class. The class will lay the foundation for every subsequent course in mathematics at Perry Tech. Success in Algebra must be encouraged and emphasized since it is an accurate indicator of success in each student's chosen field of study.

This course is also offered as a Distance Learning class. Students taking advantage of this option should log in at least 5 minutes before the beginning of each class. Time is allotted each class day to go over material individually with the Distance Learning students.

A typical evening class will consist of the following: At the beginning of each class session, we will review assigned homework exercises, and then correct any assigned worksheet. This is typically followed by a short quiz (typically 6-8 problems, usually completed in 10-15 min) covering previous material. The quiz is given to allow both you and the instructor to evaluate your understanding of covered material. After the quiz, there will be a lecture covering the assigned reading for the evening. Following the lecture, students will typically spend 30 to 45 minutes working on exercises from the *Forgotten Algebra* text or a handout from a supplemental source. We will work through any problems where the students have questions. Depending on how quickly the students grasp the material, we may move on to the next subject in the syllabus.

There will be tests covering certain sections of material (for example; Fractions, or Solving Literal Equations), and as a review of previous material. We will review the test in class to find out if there is any material that needs to be covered more thoroughly. Worksheets, quizzes and tests will be corrected in class, and scores recorded.

There will be a final test for this course; it is structured to have the same level of difficulty as the Algebra Entrance Test for the Instrumentation and ITCS programs. The test will be administered the Wednesday of the last week of class.

Purpose

Upon completion of the class, students will be required to pass the necessary testing for all students enrolling in programs at Perry Tech. The Perry Algebra Entrance Exam will be administered on the Thursday of the last week of class for all students enrolled in the Evening Algebra Class as an on campus student. Remote students will be able to take the exam that day as travel permits.

Classroom Expectations

All rules and expectations will fall in accordance with the Perry Technical Institute catalog. In addition to the catalog policies, the following classroom expectations will be observed:

The Evening Algebra Class is held in a class room that is shared with the Business Technology and Accounting program. We will need to show the respect for the students and staff who use the classroom during the day. For that reason we will need to observe the following rules:

- Make sure that when you leave the class in the evening you pick up any trash in your area and put the chairs on top of the desks to facilitate cleaning.
- Drinks are allowed in the classroom, but food is prohibited.
- There will be no use of tobacco products, including chew and vaping in the school. A smoking area has been established at the north end of the west parking lot.
- The use of smart phones will be limited to the calculator function on your device while class is in session.

Timeliness and attendance

- You are expected to be in your seat and ready to participate at the beginning of class start time.
- Tardiness and absences are a primary reason for a student's dismissal from PTI. You are expected to contact the instructor, prior to the start of class, if you are going to be tardy or absent.
- Students are not allowed more than two absences in the ten-week period.

Failure to adhere to the above rules and expectations will be notified in the following manner:

1. Verbal warning
2. Advising (written agreement on file)
3. Being dropped from the class.

Course Text (Purchase in Perry Tech Bookstore or online): *Forgotten Algebra* 4th edition. Written by Barbara Lee Bleau, Ph.D., Meg Clemens, and Glenn Clemens. The text is published by Barron's Educational Series, Inc. Hauppauge, NY.

Handouts, worksheets, and exercises from other sources will supplement the course material.