

MATH 102

Introductory Remarks

George Voutsadakis¹

¹Mathematics and Computer Science
Lake Superior State University

Fall 2020

Your Instructor

- George Voutsadakis
 - Office: CAS 206E
 - Phone: 906-635-2667
 - Email: gvoutsad@lssu.edu
- Website where you can find:
 - These slides and the syllabus:

<http://voutsadakis.com/teach.html>

- The lecture slides:

<http://voutsadakis.com/TEACH/LECTURES/lectslides.html>

- Office Hours:

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1:00-2:40	8:00-8:50	1:00-2:40	

- You can email me to set up an appointment if these do not work!
- We may arrange to meet online, if more desirable.

Our Textbook

- *Intermediate Algebra*, Lynn Marecek, openstax
- It is freely available online here:

<https://openstax.org/details/books/intermediate-algebra>

- You may use it in whichever format you find most convenient:
 - electronic pdf form;
 - electronic html form;
 - your own printed version;
 - hard copy from the bookstore.
- Let's make good use of it and learn some math!

Grading Method and Evaluation

● **Mastery Grading:**

- To be considered proficient in each Chapter a student must obtain a score of (at least) 8/10 on that Chapter's Proficiency Test.
- If a score of 8/10 is not attained, a student may, after studying and practicing some more, retake the Chapter's Proficiency Test to improve his/her score until a score of 8/10 is reached.
- We each have multiple chances to reach a score of 8/10.
- The Proficiency Tests shall be on the xyzhomework platform (more about it on the next slide).
- At the end, I will assign you letter grades according to the scale:

Five Proficiencies	<i>A</i>
Four Proficiencies	<i>B</i>
Three Proficiencies	<i>C</i>
Two Proficiencies	<i>D</i>
One or No Proficiency	<i>F</i>

XYZHomework Platform

- The Proficiency Tests shall be on the XYZHomework platform.
 - The system generates tests automatically.
Repeated attempts at the same test may not look alike!
 - The answers are graded as correct or incorrect.
It is *each student's responsibility* to ensure that the answers are entered in such a way so as to be interpreted by xyzhomework as intended.
 - At the end of each test, you get to know your score!
- How to sign up:
 - Go to xyzhomework.com
 - Sign up into the system as a student;
 - If you are in my 11:00 AM Section, the Course ID is # 24895
If you are in my 2:00 PM Section, the Course ID is # 25109
 - In due time, I will provide you with a registration key to register before the two-week free trial period expires.
DO NOT BUY A LICENSE! The cost is covered by your course fees!
- I will be making **announcements in class as to when each Proficiency Test opens up** and is available for you to take!

Academic Details

- **Academic Integrity:** You are expected to work on the Proficiency Tests on your own!
 - You may have with you a pencil, blank paper and your calculators.
 - No other electronic devices are allowed.
 - Any form of cheating or plagiarism shall have serious consequences in accordance with University Academic Integrity Procedures.
- On your handout is a printed version of the Course Outline.

This is tentative and we may be off by a section or two, depending on how we are doing and the pace that best suits our needs.
- On your handout, there is also a list of Homework Problems.

These are for you to practice with, before attempting your tests.
- You may also practice online at [xyzhomework](#) to get a feel for the system and get used to the way the platform works and responds!

Closing Remarks

- Come to class! I want to see you!
Ask questions! I want to be hearing from you!
- Make frequent and good use of your book to study.
Use both your book and `xyzhomework` to do as many problems as you possibly can.
- If you encounter difficulties, visit me or the Math Center at the Library and ask for help.
- Prepare each day on each section covered in class to be ready when each Proficiency Test opens up!
Do not leave everything for the last moment; you will feel overwhelmed and inundated.
- Let's **work hard** and **have a successful semester!**
I want to assign only A's and B's when the time comes!