Syllabus
Elementary Algebra

**Course:** DEVM F060-F61 Elementary Algebra, CRN 52285
**Time:** Tues, Wed, Thurs 1:00 – 3:40 pm
**Location:** Gruening 304
**Term:** Summer 2013
**Assistant Professor:** Amy Barnsley
**E-Mail:** amy.barnsley@alaska.edu  This is the best way to contact me.
**Cell Phone:** 907 460 4677
**Office Hours & Location:** Gruening 406 by appointment
**Text:** Elementary Algebra, Third Edition, Mark Dugopolski, Custom Ed, with Aleks

**Aleks Course Code:** TBD

**Blackboard:** Course materials such as this syllabus and your grades will be available on Blackboard. You must be able to receive emails sent via Blackboard.

**www.aleks.com:** You will use online homework program called Aleks. You must have daily access to the internet.

**Course Description:** This course will prepare students for the Intermediate Algebra course, the next in the algebra sequence. Topics covered will include: evaluating and simplifying algebraic expressions, solving first degree equations and inequalities, integer exponents, polynomials, factoring, rational expressions, equations and graphs of lines. The format will involve lecture, cooperative small group interaction, practice on daily homework, and an emphasis on application problems.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**
1. Simplify and evaluate algebraic expressions
2. Apply understanding of exponent rules
3. Solve linear equations in one variable
4. Solve linear inequalities in one variable
5. Solve linear equations in two variables
6. Graph and interpret linear equations
7. Determine the slope of a line
8. Determine equations of lines
9. Convert from standard form to slope-intercept form and interpret meaning
10. Perform operations on polynomials
11. Factor polynomials
12. Solve quadratic equations by factoring
13. Simplify and perform operations on rational expressions
14. Solve rational equations
15. Solve applied problems

**Instructional Methods:** The format of the class will involve lecture, strategies for problem solving, small group work and practice on daily homework and demonstration of learning homework and exams. Online homework is required for this class.
**Prerequisites:** The prerequisite for this course is a grade of A, B, or C in DEVM 050, or placement into DEVM 060 by taking the Accuplacer test in Testing Center, 2nd floor Gruening on main campus, or at the Education Center on FWW. You have until June 3 to take the Accuplacer test. Students who do not meet the prerequisites will be dropped from the course.

**Grades:** Grades are based on the following scale
- 90-100% A
- 80-89% B
- 70-79% C
- 60-69% D
- 0-59% F

This represents a guarantee. The instructor reserves the right to improve grades beyond what is shown here. This is where attendance counts. If you come to almost every class, I will round up. For example, a grade of 78% will earn a B if you come to almost every class.

Your grade has four components:
- Homework from ALEKS (1-36) 15%
- ALEKS Practice exams 15%
- Exams (5) 50%
- Final Exam 20%
- Extra credit: Aleks Pie 5%

Extra credit calculated as percentage of the pie that you accomplish. Any amount of the pie will help your grade.

There will be five exams and a final. The tentative exam schedule is on the course calendar.

**Final Exam:**
Wednesday July 3, 1:00-3:00 pm

You are graded not only on correctness, but also on clarity of work. If I can’t read your writing, then a correct answer will not get you full credit. You must show all steps. Just giving the answer will not earn full credit. Again, you must show all work. Quizzes and exams must be done in pencil, your first and last name on the upper right hand corner of the first page, do not use spiral bound paper, staple all pages, use only the front side of the page, the answer should be easy to find, leave some space between problems. You will receive a zero if these requirements are not met.

Homework is due at 11:59 pm the day before exams. The Aleks program will not allow you to work beyond 11:59 pm. NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED. With the exception of university related trips, these include travel for sports competition, the university orchestra and field trips for classes, in which case you must make arrangements prior to your travel. Travel for work and sports practice will not excuse late work. I’ll emphasize: **turn in work early if you will need to miss class. All assignments are available online and can be done early.**
As a policy, exams cannot be retaken. An exam will be considered to be taken if you have started it. Exams cannot be missed except in extreme cases. If an excuse for an exam can be scheduled ahead of time, it must be scheduled in advance. Exams can be missed for some religious reasons. Medical require a note from a physician. Road conditions or transportation problems will not constitute an exception to this emergencies rule. The instructor reserves the right to offer retesting opportunities.

Keep all graded work until you get your final grade. If you believe a quiz, homework or exam was graded incorrectly please bring your concern forward immediately; but absolutely before the final exam.

There can be "technical" glitches which cause you to be unable to log in to do your homework. Do not leave your homework until the last minute. It is your responsibility to do on-line homework by the start of class. Unless technical glitches are incurred by all members of the class they will not excuse a homework.

**Math Lab and Tutors:** Extra help is available for free. A tutor is available to help with questions at the scheduled times in Room 406 Gruening on the main Campus. Times are posted in these rooms. Study groups with classmates are encouraged. Videotapes/DVDs which accompany the text may be checked out in the Math Lab. The videos and textbook are on reserve in the library and can be checked out for 2 hours at a time.

**Audits:** A student who audits this course must attend class regularly. An auditing student does not need to take the exams but must turn in all homework and quizzes. A student cannot change this course to an audit if a homework or a quiz is missing.

**Withdrawals:** Last day for student-initiated and faculty-initiated drops (course does not appear on academic record): June 3. Last day for student-initiated and faculty-initiated withdrawals (W grade appears on academic record): June 19. If you are considering dropping the course please come talk to me. I can help you make that very difficult decision. I will do a faculty-initiated withdrawal (W) for all students earning below 60% overall grade on June 19. A W grade and an F grade have the same effect on your full time status. The difference is that an F grade hurts your GPA, but a W grade does not. It is always benefits you to get a W, instead of an F.

**Disability needs:** Any student who feels he or she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately before June 3 to discuss his or her specific needs. Please contact Disability Services at 474-7043 to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

**Big Tip:** Always come to class. Never be late. You are responsible for all material presented in class, even at times when you are absent.

**Class Etiquette:** Students who participate in this class in an adequate fashion have good attendance and are in the classroom at the start of the class. They stay until the end of class. They have a good record of turning in homework. They do not disturb those around them (whispering, leaving to get food, eating during class, etc). Those students that participate in a substantial fashion are attentive and discuss ideas in a reasonable and polite fashion. Please turn off all beeping devices (cell phones, watches) before the start.
of each class. Absolutely no cell phones or headphones are allowed in class during tests, quizzes or lectures.