

Unfortunately at this time the software for this program does NOT work for the MAC.

The course is structured with closing dates for each test; all tests and exams may be taken early. All tests and exams are available from day #ONE of this course. It is possible to complete the course early, should that be the choice of any individual participant.

August 15, 2008

Dear Course Participant,

**Welcome to Introductory Algebra (Mathematics 052),
FALL SEMESTER 2008!**

IF this is your first Computer Supported-Course, it may take a bit of adjustment, however your development as a student is enhanced and your knowledge of mathematics is embellished. Please know at this early point that I am sensitive to the concerns, values, attitudes and struggles of my students.

I care about you, your future and your cultivation of mathematics.

Necessary Course Materials:

ALL CHAPTER TESTS and the MID SEMESTER Exam and the FINAL Exam will be taken in class on the computer within the Course Compass Program.

Introductory Algebra, by Elayn Martin-Gay, 3rd edition;
Prentice Hall Publisher + **My Math Lab shrink wrapped with textbook**
Prentice Hall /Pearson Education Publishing

This shrink wrapped bundle includes:

- 1) ***The text book***
- 2) ***Importantly an included Student ID (provided to get started)***

EXAMS

Two exams are required, one at mid-semester and the other at the end of the semester.

You may use your own calculator *if you choose*; otherwise a scientific calculator is built into the Oakton Computer System.

The first of these exams (**MID SEMESTER EXAM**) includes the required materials *from Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4.*

The second exam (**FINAL EXAM**) includes the required materials *from ALL CHAPTERS (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7)* covered in this course.

The required chapter tests are taken on the computer, in the classroom lab, with the class on designated dates listed on the Announcement Page within the program.

When you are using a computer on campus at OCC, your logon ID is the first four letters of your last name (lower case) followed by the last four numbers of your social security number. Your password is your entire social security number with no spaces or dashes. Once registered within the COURSECOMPASS Program you may utilize any PC to practice.

ABOUT THE COURSE

No knowledge of computer programming is necessary.

What you need is a *determination* and a *willingness* to tolerate *reading* directives, *following* those directives, *allowing* yourself the weakness of being human, *trying* again, and of course a *desire* to learn mathematics!

Once you are registered into the COURSECOMPASS program (directions included in the package of course materials), you will notice on the announcement board a list of test and exam closing dates, reminders of course practices and messages imperative to course success. Additionally, this information can be found and *PRINTED* on my Web Page: WWW.OAKTON.EDU/~NRESSLER

The chapters and the required sections are also listed on the homework list. Should you elect to investigate additional sections or chapters, please feel free to ask me about any additional math content or course concerns.

Additionally, with the use of these course materials, the publishing company offers **free** services that include tutoring

Tutor Center Hours: *Sunday – Thursday* from:

5 PM-12 PM (*Eastern Standard Time*); 4 PM-11 PM (*Central Standard Time*);

3 PM-10 PM (*Mountain Standard Time*); 2 PM-9 PM (*Pacific Standard Time*),

hours may vary during different terms --- please check.

The toll-free phone is 1-888-777-0463; toll-free fax: 1-877-262-9774;

E-mail: tutor@awl.com, and a web site: www.awl.com/tutorcenter.

HOW TO REGISTER INTO THE ON LINE COMPONENT:

Since you have registered with Oakton Community College into this course you will also need to register within the computer for me. The inside textbook cover contains your **Student ID**; this letter provides your **Course ID**. Both of these are necessary in order to begin working within the program.

The order in which you register on line with COURSECOMPASS is very important; do not skip questions; satisfy questions in the exact order they are presented to you within the registration.

At this first time, you will be asked whether to register or to logon; click on register; when asked to identify the text, scroll to locate it and mouse click, when asked for the College – remember it is Oakton Community College, scroll to find it or type it in as “other”. You may be requested for the college zip code; it is **60016**; **the course ID**; it is:
RESSLER65126 No Spaces.

Your registration ID is given inside the front cover of the text. Please be careful, as there are times that you are required to click on a *submit* button.

When you are registered you can access an electronic book, interactive tutorials, actual tests, sample tests, announcements, your grade book and *sometimes a bit of frustration!* After you have completed the program registration, you will always enter the program via the **URL: WWW.CourseCompass.Com** and then click *login*.
Good Luck; again Welcome to Introductory Algebra!

Nancy Ressler,
Professor of Mathematics
Email: nressler@oakton.edu

Should you E-MAIL ME please include YOUR NAME as it is listed with the college registrar.

Please DONOT voice mail to me; it is inefficient.

Please *DO* email me: **nressler@oakton.edu**

-Use Oakton computer Labs (lab hours and locations)

<http://www.oakton.edu/resource/it/labspecs.htm>