Dear Student,

Welcome to the hybrid version of Math 060 at College of the Canyons. The purpose of this letter is to give you an overview of the course which hopefully will help you decide if online learning is suitable for your needs.

This course is designed to develop beginning algebra skills, including the fundamental concepts of operating within the real number system, working with first degree equations in one unknown, identifying and evaluating functions, factoring of and multiplication of polynomials, and working with algebraic fractions, linear equations and graphs, systems of linear equalities, exponents and radicals, quadratic equations, and applications.

The textbook for this course is: Elementary & Intermediate Algebra by Sullivan (3rd edition)

There are two options for accessing the textbook. First, you can find it bundled with MyMathLab Student Access Kit at COC Bookstore. The cost can range from $127-$169. The second option is to just purchase a MyMathLab Access Code from Pearson’s website www.mymathlab.com when you register for the course. With this option you can access the textbook online and will not have a hard copy of the textbook. The cost is about $90.00. Most students seem to prefer option number 2. You will not be able to purchase the access code from Pearson’s website until I give you the courseID, so don’t panic. I will provide you with the course ID a few days prior to the beginning of the semester.

The only required material for the course is MML student access code mentioned above and a valid email account. Without the access code and a valid email account, you will not be able to access the course.

IS ONLINE MATH FOR YOU?

Online math classes are an exciting new offering at College of the Canyons. These courses certainly seem appealing because they are more convenient than on-campus classes, especially for those who have busy schedules. Your course material will consist of a textbook, video lectures, animations, virtual lectures, and PowerPoint presentations. You will probably spend 20-30 hours per week for this course because of the nature of online courses, dealing with technology and the fact that we have only 8 weeks to cover the entire course (instead of 16 weeks). Therefore, please take a realistic look at your availability and ability to invest around 20-30 hours per week to just this one course. I will be available to address any questions you have, and you will also have access to the tutors in TLC and other tutors by phone. However, please keep in mind that online classes have many disadvantages. Since we do not meet face-to-face on a weekly basis, students find it easier to procrastinate, quickly fall behind in completing course material and even feel isolated or disconnected from the instructor and class peers.
Successful online students are self-motivated, independent, organized learners. In determining whether this course will meet your academic needs, please consider your individual learning style and the teaching method that best matches your learning style. Be honest and realistic.

To see if online math is suitable for you, please visit

http://www.canyons.edu/offices/distance_learning

and click on “Student Support” followed by “Readiness Assessments.”

Please visit my homepage http://www3.canyons.edu/Faculty/palmera/ as of Friday, June 12th, to find additional information about this course. Mandatory on-campus course orientation will be held on Monday, June 15th, 10:10am-12:40p, in BONH-301. If you do not attend the orientation, you will be dropped from the course.

This class meets every Monday from 10:10am-12:40pm (either online or on-campus). You will have online lectures, homework, tests as well as face-to-face meetings and tests. For all face-to-face meetings a valid identification will be required or you will not be allowed to take the tests. The on-campus test days are: June 29th, July 13th, July 27th, and August 3rd. Please mark your calendars, so you won’t miss those days as make-up tests will not be allowed.

We will be using MyMathLab, CCCConfer, and Blackboard course management system for this course. Additional information will be discussed during the Orientation on Monday, June 15th.

Student Learning Outcomes for Math 060 are:

• Recognize and interpret equations of lines
• Solve systems of linear equations
• Factor Polynomials

If you are a DSPS student, you may qualify for additional time taking your tests. Please share with me the accommodations letter so I can help you accordingly.

If you have any questions about the course, please feel free to contact me at: ana.palmer@canyons.edu.

Ana Palmer