



LEFT: BONNIE RAINES,  
COLLEGE STUDENT DISGUISE, 1971

## Math 212-32 Elementary Algebra

Winter Quarter 2017

Course #33513

- **Text.** Blitzer, *Intermediate Algebra*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed.
- **Instructor.** Andrew Phelps
- **Class Hours and Location.** Tu/Th 4:00PM to 6:15PM in Room L-83 BREAK IN MIDDLE
- **Office Hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:10-1:00PM
- **Office Location:** Baldwin Winery #21 — wave or dial **8261** at entry for admission
- **Communication.** 24-Hour Voice Mail *not available*.

If you can't come to class, send an email



The class e-mail address is: [math\\_anxiety@yahoo.com](mailto:math_anxiety@yahoo.com)



The Course Web Site is:

<http://batstar.net/habit>

USE 'ADDRESS' (URL) NOT 'SEARCH'

Check that frequently for changes and/or additions

### The Course

- **Calculator.** You need a *scientific calculator*. A *graphing utility* will be helpful, but is not required. If you wish to purchase a graphing utility, the Math Department recommends at De Anza the **TI-83** or **TI-84**. That will be used in classes further along in the sequence
- **The Course.** Includes linear equations and inequalities, graphing, systems of linear equations, polynomials, factoring, square roots, quadratic equations
- **Homework.** Homework (*not to be handed in*) is assigned daily, and available on the Course Web Site. *Doing the homework is key to learning the material. The best thing is to do everything that is assigned, and more* You may be responsible for occasional *Spot Quizzes* which are quizzes testing you on 1-2 current homework problems (no make-up on Quizzes). There will be four (4) short homework sets drawn from the assigned problems, that are handed in and graded
- **Math Review.** Initial course project, reaching to previous experience with mathematics; later, a follow-up with upgrade report.
- **Class Presentation.** Lecture in front of the class once on a pre-assigned homework problem
- **Attendance.** Missing class more than two (2) times after the first week of class, without adequate explanation, will be considered grounds for grade reduction/failure. "Adequate explanation," if you *need* to miss class, means send me an e-mail
- **Coming Late.** Tardiness and leaving class early w/o permission will be counted as ½ a missed class. Note difficult current campus parking situation.  
Difficult situations require explanation and arrangement — see *Attendance Policy* [HERE](#)

If you *need* to miss class, send me an [e-mail message](#). **I take missing class very seriously.**

In addition, tardiness and leaving class early w/o permission will be counted as **1/2** a missed class



**BAD BEHAVIOR**

*raw score contributions*

unit(s)	points
4 HW Sets @2%	8
Class Presentation	2
Math Review/Report	4
Spot Quizzes	2
1 Quiz @5%	5
3 Exams @14%	42
Final Exam	30
Subjective	7

- **Exams.** There will be one quiz, then three (3) exams and then the final exam. Because the class period is more than two hours long, it is necessary to have a lecture period the same day as an exam. **Note:** Attendance will be taken for that *lecture period*
- **Grading.** The grades will be based on a “raw score” of between **0** and **100**. Those will be “curved” by giving students with similar raw scores the same grade. **Note:** That does *not* necessarily mean that “90=‘A’.” Instead, it depends on the raw score distribution
- **Extra credit.** Various extra credit assignments will be made available. These are intended to help if your final grade is at a *boundary*, such as “B-”/“C+”
- **Subjective Grade.** Based on constructive class participation. **4** is the *default* grade. Personal attacks on the instructor or other students warrants an automatic **0**. Helpful behavior in *group learning* situations is valued. **CIVILITY IS CONSIDERED VERY IMPORTANT**
  - *Stepping Out* of class is restricted. One student at a time may step out; a list will be kept.
  - *Cellphones* and *iPods* are not permitted in class. Going outside to answer the cellphone is forbidden. In emergency, you should explain the incident to the class. And keep your cellphone turned off.
  - *Use of cellphone (even as calculator) during an exam may constitute ground for credit reduction*
  - *Discipline* in class also matters. Students should avoid persistent complaints that we “go too fast” or not fast enough,” or the like. Differences should not be argued on *class time*
- **Student Success.** I take student success seriously. Course activities aimed to help students “think mathematically” will be offered for extra credit. An alternative student success activity involving “community engagement” will also be offered

**Plagiarism.** You are expected to do your own work. Other students may not share your work before hand-in. The appearance of cheating is grounds for failing a test/assignment or for failing the course itself, at the discretion of the instructor

**Disclaimer.** The policy presented may possibly be changed, in which case the class will be notified