



Introductory and Intermediate Algebra for College Students

By Robert F. Blitzer, Robert F Blitzer

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The goal of this series is to provide readers with a strong foundation in Algebra. Each book is designed to develop readers' critical thinking and problem-solving capabilities and prepare readers for subsequent Algebra courses as well as “service” math courses. Topics are presented in an interesting and inviting format, incorporating real world sourced data and encouraging modeling and problem-solving. The Real Number System. Linear Equations and Inequalities in One Variable. Linear Equations in Two Variables. Systems of Linear Equations. Exponents and Polynomials. Factoring Polynomials. Rational Expressions. Functions, More on Systems of Linear Functions. Inequalities and Problem Solving. Radicals, Radical Functions, and Rational Exponents. Quadratic Equations and Functions. Exponential and Logarithmic Functions. Conic Sections and Nonlinear Systems of Equations. Sequences, Induction, and Probability. For anyone interested in introductory and intermediate algebra and for the combined introductory and intermediate algebra.

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

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About the Author

Bob Blitzer is a native of Manhattan and received a Bachelor of Arts degree with dual majors in mathematics and psychology (minor: English literature) from the City College of New York. His unusual combination of academic interests led him toward a Master of Arts in mathematics from the University of Miami and a doctorate in behavioral sciences from Nova University. Bob is most energized by teaching mathematics and has taught a variety of mathematics courses at Miami-Dade Community College for nearly 30 years. He has received numerous teaching awards, including Innovator of the Year from the League for Innovations in the Community College, and was among the first group of recipients at Miami-Dade Community College for an endowed chair based on excellence in the classroom. In addition to *Introductory and Intermediate Algebra for College Students*, Bob has written *Introductory Algebra for College Students*, *Intermediate Algebra for College Students*, *Algebra for College Students*, *Thinking Mathematically*, *College Algebra*, *Algebra and Trigonometry*, and *Precalculus*, all published by Prentice Hall.

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Introductory and Intermediate Algebra for College Students provides comprehensive, in-depth coverage of the topics required in a course combining the study of introductory and intermediate algebra. The primary goals of the book are to help students acquire a solid foundation in introductory and intermediate algebra, without the repetition of topics in two separate texts, and to show how algebra can model and solve authentic real-world problems.

A source of frustration for me and my colleagues is that very few students read their textbook. When I ask students why they do not take full advantage of the text, their responses generally fall into two categories:

- "I cannot follow the explanations."
- "The applications are not interesting."

I thought about both of these objections in writing every page of this book.

"I can't follow the explanations." For many of my students, textbook explanations are too compressed. The chapters in *Introductory and Intermediate Algebra for College Students* have been written to make them

extremely accessible. Every section contains a range of simple, intermediate, and challenging examples. Voice balloons allow for specific annotations in examples, further clarifying procedures and concepts.

"The applications are not interesting." One of the things I enjoy most about teaching in a large urban community college is the diversity of who my students are and what interests them. Real-world data that celebrate this variety are used to bring relevance to examples, discussions, and applications. I selected all up-to-date real-world data to be interesting and intriguing to students. By connecting algebra to the whole spectrum of their interests, it is my intent to show students that their world is profoundly mathematical and, indeed, pi is in the sky.

Key Pedagogical Features

Introductory and Intermediate Algebra for College Students is part of a series of four texts that include *Introductory Algebra for College Students*, Third Edition, *Intermediate Algebra for College Students*, Third Edition, and *Algebra for College Students*, Fourth Edition. The following features are found throughout the series.

- **Chapter-Opening and Section-Opening Scenarios.** Every chapter *and every section* opens with a compelling image that supports a scenario presenting a unique application of algebra in students' lives outside the classroom. Each scenario is revisited later in the chapter or section.
- **Section Objectives.** Learning objectives open every section. The objective are stated in the margin at their point of use.
- **Detailed Illustrative Examples.** Each illustrative example is titled, making; clear the purpose of the example. Examples are clearly written and provide students with detailed step-by-step solutions. No steps are omitted and each step is explained.
- **Check Point Examples.** Each worked example is followed by a similar matched problem for the student to work while reading the material. This actively involves the student in the learning process and gives students the opportunity to work with a concept as soon as they have learned it. Answers to all Check Points are given in the answer section.
- **Graphing.** Chapter 1 contains an introduction to graphing, a topic that is integrated throughout the book. Line, bar, circle, and rectangular coordinate graphs that use real data appear in nearly every section and exercise set. Many examples and exercises use graphs to explore relationships between data and to provide ways of visualizing a problem's solution.
- **Geometric Problem Solving.** Section 2.6 on problem solving in geometry teaches geometric concepts that are important to a student's understanding of algebra. There is frequent emphasis on problem solving in geometric situations, as well as on geometric models that allow students to visualize algebraic formulas.
- **Functions.** Functions are introduced in Chapter 8, with functions emphasized throughout the second half of the book.
- **Thorough, Yet Optional Technology.** Although the use of graphing utilities is optional, they are utilized in Using Technology boxes to enable students to visualize algebraic concepts. The use of graphing utilities is also reinforced in the technology exercises appearing in the exercise sets for those who want this option. With the book's early introduction to graphing, students can look at the calculator screens in the Using Technology boxes and gain an increased understanding of an example's solution even if they are not using a graphing utility in the course.
- **Enrichment Essays.** Enrichment essays provide historical, interdisciplinary, and otherwise interesting connections throughout the text.
- **Study Tips.** Study Tip boxes offer suggestions for problem solving, point out common student errors, and provide informal tips and suggestions. These invaluable hints appear in abundance throughout the book.
- **Discovery.** Discover for Yourself boxes, found throughout the text, encourage students to further explore algebraic concepts. These explorations are optional and their omission does not interfere with the

continuity of the topic under consideration.

- **Exercise Sets.** An extensive collection of exercises is included in an exercise set at the end of each section. The text organizes exercises by level within six category types: Practice Exercises, Application Exercises, Writing in Mathematics, Technology Exercises, Critical Thinking Exercises, and Review Exercises. This format makes it easy to create well-rounded homework assignments. Writing exercises offer students the opportunity to write about every objective covered in each section, as well as to discuss, interpret, and give opinions about data. Each review exercise contains the section number and example number of a similar worked-out example.
- **Chapter Projects.** At the end of each chapter are collaborative activities that give students the opportunity to work cooperatively as they think and talk about mathematics. Many of these exercises should result in interesting group, discussions.
- **Chapter Review Grids.** Each chapter contains a review chart that summarizes the definitions and concepts in every section of the chapter. Examples that illustrate these key concepts are also included in the chart. Like the summary grid, review exercises are organized by each section of the chapter.
- **End-of-Chapter Materials.** The review grids provide a focused summary and illustrative examples for each section in the chapter. A comprehensive collection of review exercises for each of the chapter's sections follows the review grid. This is followed by a chapter test. Beginning with Chapter 2, each chapter concludes with a comprehensive collection of cumulative review exercises.
- **A Review of Introductory Algebra.** Appendix A, entitled *Are You Prepared for Intermediate Algebra?*, provides students with a fast way to review introductory algebra topics before starting the intermediate algebra portion of the book.
- **Supplements Package.** This text is supported by a wealth of supplements designed for added effectiveness and efficiency. These items are described on pages xiii through xv.

Supplements for the Instructor

Printed Resources

Annotated Instructor's Edition (0-13-032843-X)

- Answers to exercises on the same text page or in Graphing Answer Section.
- Graphing Answer Section contains answers to exercises requiring graphical solutions.

Instructor's Solutions Manual (0-13-034328-5)

- Step-by-step solutions for every even-numbered section exercise.
- Step-by-step solutions for every (even and odd) Check Point exercise, Chapter Review exercise, Chapter Test and Cumulative Review exercise.

Instructor's Resource Manual (0-13-034319-6)

- Notes to the Instructor • Eight Chapter Tests per chapter (5 free response, 3 multiple choice)
- Eight Final Exams (4 free response, 4 multiple choice)
- Twenty additional exercises per section for added test exercises or worksheets.
- Answers to all items

Media Resources

TestGen-EQ with QuizMaster-EQ (CD-ROM for IBM and Macintosh 0-13-034324-2)

- Algorithmically driven, text specific testing program.
- Networkable for administering tests and capturing grades on-line.
- Edit or add your own questions to create a nearly unlimited number of tests and worksheets.
- Use the new "Function Plotter" to create graphs.

- Tests can be easily exported to HTML so they can be posted to the Web.

Computerized Tutorial Software Course Management System

MathPro Explorer 4.0

- Network version for IBM and Macintosh
- Enables instructors to create either customized or algorithmically generated practice quizzes from any section of a chapter.
- Includes an e-mail function for networked users, enabling instructors to send a message to a specific student or to an entire group.
- Network based reports and summaries for a class or student and for cumulative or selected scores are available.

MathPro 5

- Anytime. Anywhere.
- Online tutorial with enhanced class and student management features.
- Integration of TestGen-EQ allows for testing to operate within the tutorial environment.
- Course management tracking of both tutorial and testing activity.

Online Options for Distance Learning

WebCT/Blackboard/CourseCompass

- Prentice Hall offers three different on-line interactivity and delivery options for a variety of distance learning needs. Instructors may access or adopt these in conjunction with this text.

Supplements for the Student

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