

Welcome to the Individualized Learning Program (I L P)

The ILP, which was established in 1991, mainly targets “high risk” and “math anxious” students as well as those who would like to complete their Beginning and Intermediate Algebra courses in less or more than one semester. The ILP program strives to minimize math anxiety, which is particularly closely associated with test anxiety in mathematics courses. The Individualized Learning program is based on the principles of *immersion* and *mastery learning*. The ILP provides several resources for learning mathematics as opposed to traditional Algebra classes. Here are some key features of the ILP:

- **Students are given the choice of two ways to complete the course:**
 - a) You are expected to attend lecture at the scheduled time, but you may receive one-on-one tutoring outside the classroom in the ILP lab located in room V-217. (Recommended)
 - b) You may occasionally elect to work on your own during your class time (under the direct supervision of an Instructional Assistant) and receive help from the professional tutors in the lab.
- The concept of *mastery learning* means that you are required to **redo** any part of your exams if you receive an unsatisfactory grade on that part of your exam. In that case, you are given additional practice problems on the concepts you have missed, and then you are retested within a few days. This way you may raise your score while mastering the material for that chapter.
- Students may complete the course in one full semester, in less than one semester, or if necessary, in one and one-half semesters. There are requirements for each situation:

To complete the course in one semester or less:

- a) You must pass 5 unit tests, turn in 5 units of homework, take 5 quizzes, and take the comprehensive final. The passing grade is 70% of the total points in the course.
- b) You must have an excellent attendance record of > 83 %. (Since this is a positive attendance course, you receive points for attendance as part of your grade).

To complete the course in one and a half semesters:

- a) You must pass at least 4 unit tests, turn in 4 units of homework, and complete 4 quizzes and/or projects.
 - b) You should have no more than 6 hours of absence for the entire term.
 - c) The Unit 5 Test and the Final Exam need to be taken in order to receive a grade in the course. ***Failure to complete the course will result in a grade of "F."***
- Since ILP is an “open-entry” type of program, students may add an ILP class even after the first week of instruction. Every late add will be considered on an individual basis to see if it would benefit the student.
 - The success rate in ILP algebra has been substantially higher than the success rate of students exposed to traditional and other alternative forms of instruction. Statewide, only one out of two students successfully completes an algebra course. In contrast, corresponding success rates for ILP students often exceed two out of three. This is in spite of the fact that the ILP targets at-risk students who have often failed to succeed in their attempts with other pedagogical models. We believe that much of this success derives from our establishment of an education community in the ILP facilities. Here we have established a homeroom for mathematics students.
 - Videotaped lectures are available for checkout (very popular with students).
 - ILP has been very popular with the following students:
 - a) Returning Students
 - b) College Freshmen
 - c) Those taking the course as a “refresher” for higher math classes
 - d) Math anxious and Math phobic students
 - e) Nursing students who need Algebra to get through their science requirements
 - f) Those who need flexibility in their schedule due to work or family
 - g) Visually challenged and those with physical or learning disabilities
 - h) The general student at Sierra College

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT JAMES RAZAVI AT
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YOU MAY E-MAIL YOUR QUESTIONS TO:

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