

## IMPORTANT FACTS

- 1. Mat 013 is a course that covers a variety of topics in elementary algebra: Properties and operations with real numbers, simplifying and evaluating algebraic expressions, solving linear equations, solving literal equations and linear systems, solving verbal problems, techniques of graphing, operations with polynomials, special products and factoring, rational expressions and equations, solving quadratic equation by factoring and radicals.**
- 2. The textbook that is used for Mat 013 and Mat 013A courses is “Introductory Algebra”, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition by Miller, O’Neill, Hyde, published by McGraw-Hill and the required software that must be used as a supplement is ALEKS.**
- 3. An instructor and student guide for ALEKS is available in the Mathematics Department. These guides will give you and your students all the information you need to get started with ALEKS.**
- 4. Your students will be diverse in many different ways. They will be of different ages, different ability levels, different ethnicities and cultures and all with different levels of motivation. There might be some students in your class who are struggling with the pace of the course and who need a slower version of Mat 013. These students can change from your Mat 013 section to a Mat 013A class. Students have only 4 weeks from the beginning of the semester to make this switch. This is part A of the Mat 013 course and will be followed by Mat 013B in the next semester. You should announce this option on the first day of class and several times during the first four weeks of the course. Please advise any students who you think could benefit from the Mat 013A and Mat 013B track to make the change as soon as possible. It would be a good idea to give some sort of assessment (whether it is a quiz during the first few weeks or a little**

diagnostic on the first day of class) so that you may identify the students who would be better placed in Mat 013A. Some students are resistant to making a change into the two-semester course. We cannot insist that they make the switch but you can strongly suggest it if you feel that it is in the best interest of the student.

5. There might be some students in your class who feel that they do not belong in Mat 013 and want to challenge their placement. Students who are taking Mat 013 for the first time in any format and who have not previously challenged their placement may take an online Challenge Test in order to waive the Mat 013 requirement and go on to another math class depending on their major. This test must be taken by the end of the first week of classes. They will not be able to take the test after the first week. In order to take the test, students must call the Mathematics Department at (732)906-2585.