



Department of Mathematics

Syllabus
Math 0320.034IN Fall 2021
Intermediate Algebra

Professor: Sheri Aajul

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Please include your course & section in the subject line when emailing.

Virtual Student Hours: Student/Office hours are available online while course content is being covered on Friday at 9:00 – 10:00 am. Two half-hour zoom links to student/office hours is in Blackboard content.

Important Note: Internet is Required

This course uses Blackboard and COM email in addition to MyMathLab (MML), so please check them regularly. You will need access to the internet to gain access to course materials using Blackboard, COM email, and MyMathLab (MML) software. *Some devices like iPads/tablets and cellphones present problems with gaining access to quizzes/tests, so they are not acceptable devices for this class.* If you do not have your own internet access, you can get access on campus in the Innovations Computer Lab, TVB 1324, the Library and the Tutoring Center, TVB 1310.

1. Required Textbook/Materials

The textbook used in this course is: Intermediate Algebra, 8th edition, by Tobey, Slater, Blair and Crawford, published by Pearson. An electronic copy of the text is integrated into MyMathLab, so no hardcopy text is needed (unless you want one.) On the other hand, you will need to buy a MyMathLab access code (but you can use free access for two weeks if waiting on financial aid.)

A graphing calculator is needed for this course. A Texas Instruments TI 83 Plus or TI 84 Plus is recommended. A TI 89 or higher cannot be used in this course, nor any internet accessing calculator. Do not use stored programs beyond what comes pre-packed in the calculator.

MyMathLab (Pearson)

Please access MyMathLab via Blackboard (in the content section of our course). **The email account used to register for MyMathLab must be your COM email.** Note: *MyMathLab offer a two week grace period for free use if your funds are not immediately available, and you can access this option when you register for our course in MyMathLab.* **Our MyMathLab course ID is aajul83316, and our MyMathLab course name is Math0320-034IN Fall2021 Intermediate Algebra.**

2. Course Description

This course is designed to develop skills and understanding in the following areas: relations and functions, inequalities, algebraic expressions and equations (absolute value, polynomial,

radical, rational), with a special emphasis on linear and quadratic expressions and equations. This course does not transfer.

3. Course Requirements

Homework Assignments

There is an assigned homework for each section to be completed online using MyMathLab. *Most homework allows late submission with a 20% penalty, except if close to an exam or end of course, then there is no late submission option. Late close dates are as follows: All Exam 1 homework closes on 9/12/21; All Exam 2 homework closes on 9/26/21; All Exam 3 homework closes on 10/03/21; and all Exam 4 homework closes on 11/14/21. Please keep up with the course and do not procrastinate.*

Quizzes and Exams

There are six quizzes, four chapter exams and a comprehensive final exam. All of the quizzes and exams are to be done online using MyMathlab.

You may use your approved calculator (which does not access the internet or contain other than original stored programs) on all assessments. I suggest that you create a formula/concept sheet which has three columns, one for the name of the formula or concept, one for the formula or concept, and one for an example of the formula or concept. Study this document regularly and commit the formulas and concepts to memory, but keep the formula sheet handy in case you need it to check a problem on an assessment. If you really get stuck, you may use your hardcopy textbook, and homework and class notes on assessments. No other material or help is allowed. Do your own work.

You can retake each quiz just once (with its time frame) to improve your score; the higher score will be the one that counts. There are no retakes on exams. Quizzes have time limits of two hours; exam 1-4 as well as the final exam have time limits of two and one half hours. At most 4 percentage points of extra credit will be added to your final exam score (for a max score of 100%) for submitting a course evaluation.

4. Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula

Grading Formula:

The course grade will be determined by the following formula:

$$\text{Final Average} = 64\% \text{ Chapter Exam Average} + 16\% \text{ Final Exam} \\ + 10\% \text{ Homework Average} + 10\% \text{ Quiz Average}$$

The Final Exam score will replace the lowest Chapter Exam Score when it is larger.

Grading Scale:

Grade A: Final Average in [89.5, 100]
Grade B: Final Average in [79.5, 89.5)
Grade C: Final Average in [69.5, 79.5)
Grade D: Final Average in [59.5, 69.5)
Grade F: Final Average in [0, 59.5)

5. **Make-up policy**

You will be given two days to take a chapter exam and four days to take the final exam (which is an extra day this semester due to holidays.) If you are unable to make a scheduled exam within days specified in the course outline, you will be allowed to make up the exam provided that you notify the instructor before the end of the scheduled exam period and have a legitimate reason for not being able to take the exam.

6. **Attendance Policy**

You must log in and be active in MyMathLab at least three times each week. In addition to time spent in doing homework, taking quizzes and exams it will be necessary to study, using the course materials, plan to spend at least 4 hours per week to be successful in the class.

7. **Communicating with your instructor**

All electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means. I will make every effort to respond to your email within 24 hours of receiving it.

8. **Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of M0320, students will:

1. Define, represent and perform operations on real and complex numbers.
2. Recognize, understand and analyze features of a function
3. Recognize and use algebraic (field) properties, concepts, procedures (including factoring), and algorithms to combine, transform, and evaluate absolute value, polynomial, radical, and rational expressions.
4. Identify and solve absolute value, polynomial, radical, and rational equations.
5. Identify and solve absolute value and linear inequalities.
6. Model, interpret and justify mathematical ideas and concepts using multiple representations.
7. Connect and use multiple strands of mathematics in situations and problems, as well as to the study of other disciplines.

9. **Academic Dishonesty**

Do your own work on assessments. College of the Mainland is committed to a high standard of academic integrity. All students are responsible for honesty and independent effort. Incidents of academic and scholastic dishonesty (including cheating, plagiarism, and collusion) will be dealt with in a manner that is consistent with College Policy and the Student Handbook. Any student found to have been academically dishonest on an assignment, quiz or exam will receive a zero for that assignment, quiz or exam and he or she will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for further disciplinary action. Please read the sections on *Standards of Student Conduct and Discipline and Penalties* in the on-line Student Handbook.

10. **Concerns**

If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact the Department Chair, Leslie Richardson, at

11. Assessment Dates

NOTE: The pace of the first three exams is fast to allow students to focus more on MATH1314 which starts during week 6. The course ends in the 14th week of the semester to allow students to focus on the completion of MATH1314.

Date Range	Suggested	Due Date
Week 1 8/23 – 8/29	2.3 Absolute Value Equations 2.6 Linear Inequalities 2.8 Absolute Value Inequalities Quiz A (Sections 2.6 & 2.8) 3.1 Graphing Linear Equations with Two Unknowns	8/29/2021
Week 2 8/30 – 9/5	3.2 Slope of a Line 3.3 Graphs and the Equations of a Line 3.5 Concept of a Function 3.6 Graphing Functions from Equations Quiz B (Sections 3.5 & 3.6)	9/5/2021
		9/6/2021 Labor Day Holiday 9/8/2021 Census Day
Week 3 9/6 – 9/12	Test 1 (2.3, 2.6 2.8, 3.2, 3.3, 3.5, 3.6) 4.1 Systems of Linear Equations in 2 Variables 4.3 Applications of Systems of Equations Quiz C (Section 4.3) 5.4 GCF, Factoring by Grouping	9/12/2021
Week 4 9/13 – 9/19	5.5 Factoring Trinomials 5.6 Special Cases of Factoring 5.8 Solving Equations by Factoring Quiz D (Sections 5.5, 5.6 & 5.8) Test 2 (4.1, 4.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6 & 5.8)	9/19/2021
Week 5 9/20 – 9/26	5.2 Dividing Polynomials 5.3 Synthetic Division 6.1 Rational Expressions: Simplifying, Multiplying, Dividing 6.2 Add/Subtract Rational Expressions 6.3 Complex Rational Expressions	9/26/2021
Week 6 9/27 – 10/3	6.4 Rational Equations Quiz E (Sections 6.1 & 6.4) Test 3 (5.2, 5.3, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3 & 6.4)	10/3/2021
Week 7 10/4 – 10/10	7.6 Complex Numbers Quiz F (Section 7.6)	10/10/2021
Week 8 10/11 – 10/17	8.1 Quadratic Equations	10/17/2021

Week 9 10/18 – 10/24	8.2 Quadratic Formula	10/24/2021
Week 10 10/25 – 10/31	7.5 Radical Equations	10/31/2021
Week 11 11/1 – 11/7	5.7 Factor Polynomial Completely	11/7/2021
Week 12 11/8 – 11/14	Test 4 (5.7, 7.5, 7.6, 8.1, 8.2)	11/14/2021
		11/19/2021 W-Day
Week 13 11/15 – 11/21	Final Exam Review Homework	11/21/2021
Week 14 11/22 – 11/28	Comprehensive Final Exam	11/28/2021 (can submit 11/29/2021 as 11/25/2021 – 11/28/2021 are Holidays)
Week 15 11/29 – 12/5		
Week 16 12/6 – 12/10		

Institutional Policies and Guidelines

Grade Appeal Process: Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook. <https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf. *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.* https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

ADA Statement: Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact Holly Bankston at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

Counseling Statement: Any student needing counseling services is requested to please contact Holly Bankston in the student success center at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. Counseling services are available on campus in the student center for free and students can also email

counseling@com.edu to set up their appointment. Appointments are strongly encouraged; however, some concerns may be addressed on a walk-in basis.

Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Withdrawal Policy: Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a “W” grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. **The last date to withdraw is November 19, 2021.**

F_N Grading: The F_N grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The F_N grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the F_N grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an F_N grade.

Early Alert Program: The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

COVID-19 Statement: All students, faculty, and staff are expected to familiarize themselves with materials and information contained on the College of the Mainland’s Coronavirus Information site at www.com.edu/coronavirus. In compliance with Governor Abbott's May 18 Executive Order, face coverings/masks will no longer be required on COM campus. Protocols and college signage are being updated. We will no longer enforce any COM protocol that requires face coverings. We continue to encourage all members of the COM community to distance when possible, use hygiene measures, and get vaccinated to protect against COVID-19. Please visit com.edu/coronavirus for future updates.