



Department of Mathematics

Syllabus
Math 1314.034IN Fall 2021
College 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 via zoom at 8:00 am – 8:30 am & 8:30 – 9:00 am. Two links to student/office hours is in Blackboard.

Important Note: Internet is Required

This course uses COM email and Blackboard 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: College Algebra, by Beecher, Penna, Bittinger, fifth edition, 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 saajul30372, and our MyMathLab course name is Math 1314.034IN Fall 2021.**

2. Course Description

College Algebra is an in-depth study and applications of polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions, and systems of equations using matrices.

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: 1.1-2.5 closes on 10/24/21; 3.2 – 4.6 closes on 11/07/21; 5.1-5.6 closes on 11/21/21; and 6.1-6.4 closes on 12/5/21. Please keep up with the course and do not procrastinate.*

Quizzes and Exams

There are four quizzes, four chapter exams and a comprehensive final exam. All of the quizzes and exams are to be done online using MyMathlab. You will be given three days to take a chapter exam (although exam 4 is open longer) and three days to take the final exam. Please follow the assignment dates given below.

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, 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. Quizzes have time limits of one hour; exam 1-4 time limits are two hours; and final exam time limit is two and one half hours. There are no retakes on exams, but you can earn bonus points on each exam by posting to an associated discussion in Blackboard. The discussions are open during the time the material covered by the exam is open, with the closing date posted in the discussion. At most 4 percentage points of extra credit is added to your final exam score (for a max score of 100%) for submit a course evaluation. Quizzes have time limits of one hour; exam 1-4 time limits are two hours; and final exam time limit is two and one half hours.

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**

If you are unable to make a scheduled exam within the 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. **Table Mapping SLO's and Core Objectives**

Student Learner Outcomes	SLO assessed via this assignment	SLO maps to Core Objective	Core Objective assessed via this assignment
1. Demonstrate and apply knowledge of properties of functions, including domain and range, operations, compositions, and inverses.	Exam 1		
2. Recognize and apply polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic functions and solve related equations.	Exam 2, Exam 3	Critical Thinking Skills (CT)	2 application problems on Exam 3
3. Apply graphing techniques.	Quiz 3	Communication Skills (CS)	Graphing question on Exam 1
4. Evaluate all roots (zeros) of higher degree polynomials and rational functions.	Quiz 2		
5. Recognize, solve and apply systems of linear equations using matrices.	Exam 4	Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS)	2 application problems on Exam 4

Only the Core Objectives Critical Thinking and Empirical & Quantitative Skills will be

assessed this semester. Communication Skills will not be assessed.

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 (409) 933-8329, lrichardson@com.edu.

11. Assignment/Assessment Dates

Date Range	Suggested	Deadline within Date Range
Week 1 8/23 – 8/29		8/29/2021
Week 2 8/30 – 9/5		9/5/2021
		9/6/2021 Labor Day Holiday 9/8/2021 Census Day
Week 3 9/6 – 9/12		9/12/2021
Week 4 9/13 – 9/19		9/19/2021
Week 5 9/20 – 9/26		9/26/2021
Week 6 9/27 – 10/3	1.1 Introduction to Graphs 1.2 Functions and Graphs	10/3/2021
Week 7 10/4 – 10/10	1.3 Linear Functions 1.4 Equations of Lines 1.5 Zeros of Linear Functions Quiz 1: Sections 1.1-1.5	10/10/2021
Week 8 10/11 – 10/17	2.1 Increasing/Decreasing Piecewise Functions 2.2 Algebra of Functions 2.3 Composition of Functions 2.5 Transformations of Functions	10/17/2021

Week 9 10/18 – 10/24	Exam 1 (Chapters 1 & 2, excluding 2.4) 3.2 Quadratic Functions 3.3 Graphs of Quadratic Functions 4.1 Polynomial Functions	Exam 1 is due 10/20/21 Other assignments are due 10/24/2021
Week 10 10/25 – 10/31	4.2 Graphs of Polynomial Functions 4.3 Remainder, Factor Theorems 4.5 Rational Functions Quiz 2 Finding Zeros. Sections 3.2, 4.3, 4.5	10/31/2021
Week 11 11/1 – 11/7	4.6 Inequalities Exam 2 (Chapters 3 and 4) 5.1 Inverse Functions 5.2 Exponential Functions	Exam 2 is due 11/3/21 Other assignments are due 11/7/2021
Week 12 11/8 – 11/14	5.3 Logarithmic Functions Quiz 3 Graphing Techniques. Sections 5.1-5.3 5.4 Properties of Logarithmic Functions 5.5 Exponential, Logarithmic Equations	11/14/2021
		11/19/2021 W-Day
Week 13 11/15 – 11/21	5.6 Modeling with Exponential and Logarithmic Functions Exam 3 (Chapter 5) 6.1 Solving Linear Systems 2-D 6.3 Matrices and Systems of Linear Equations	Exam 3 is due 11/17/21 Other assignments are due 11/21/2021
		11/25/2021 – 11/28/2021 Thanksgiving Holidays
Week 14 11/22 – 11/28	6.2 Solving Linear Systems 3-D	11/28/2021
Week 15 11/29 – 12/5	6.4 Matrix Operations Quiz 4 Sections 6.1-6.4 Exam 4 (Chapter 6)	12/5/2021
Week 16 12/6 – 12/10	Review for Final Exam Homework Final Exam (due Wednesday 12/8/21)	12/8/2021

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.