



Department of Mathematics

Syllabus
for
Math 1314.115H2, Math 1314.615H2 Fall 2025
College Algebra
TR 9:30-12:20 am in STE 115

Professor: Leslie Richardson
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Office: Ste 325-14

Student hours:

Office Hours: MW 9:30-10:50 am, 2:00-3:00 pm, TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm, other times by appointment.

1. Required Textbook/Materials

The textbook used in this course is: College Algebra, by Beecher, Penna, Bittinger, fifth edition, published by Pearson.

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.

You will need access to the internet to gain access to course materials using the MML (MyMathLab) software. If you do not have your own internet access, you can get access on campus in the Library and the Tutoring Center, ICB 109.

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 assigned homework for each section to be completed online using MML.

Quizzes and Exams

There are 4 quizzes, 3 chapter-exams and a comprehensive final exam. All the quizzes are to be done online using MML. You can retake each quiz just once to improve your score; the higher score will be the one that counts. All exams are taken in the classroom.

There are no retakes on any of the exams.

4. **Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula**

Grading Formula:

The course grade will be determined by the following formula:

$$\text{Final Average} = 60\% \text{Chapter Exam Average} + 15\% \text{Final Exam} + 10\% \text{Homework Average} + 15\% \text{Quiz Average}$$

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

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, you will be allowed to make up the exam outside of class **provided you notify the instructor prior to the exam and have a legitimate reason for the absence**. All makeup exams must be taken in the Testing Center by appointment.

6. **Attendance Policy**

Attendance is required for all classes as per catalog.

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. **The email account used to register for MML must be your COM email.**

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

9. Academic Dishonesty

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 about the Instructor

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 Dean of Instruction for STEM, Arts & Humanities, Dr. Barney, at (409) 933-8727, rbarney@com.edu.

11. Course Outline

Week	Date	Sections	Due
1	October 13 - 17	In Class: 1.1 Introduction to Graphing 1.2 Functions and graphs 1.3 Linear Functions 1.4 Equations of Lines	October 17 18 20 20
		Watch Online Video: 1.5 Linear Functions, Zeros Quiz 1: Chapter 1	22 24
2	October 20 - 24	Watch Online Video: 2.1 Increasing, Decreasing, Piece-wise Functions	25
		In Class: 2.2 Algebra of Functions 2.3 Composition of Functions 2.5 Transformations Exam 1 Review	23 24 26
3	October 27 - 31	Watch Online Video: 3.2 Quadratic Functions	November 4
		In Class: Exam 1: Chapters 1, 2 3.3 Graphs of Quadratic Functions 4.1 Polynomial Functions 4.2 Graphing Poly Functions	October 28 31 November 3 5
4	November 3 - 7	In Class: 4.3 Remainder, Factor Theorems 4.5 Rational Functions Exam 2 Review 5.1 Inverse Functions	7 8 12
		Online: Quiz 2: Sections 3.2, 4.3, 4.5	9
5	November 10 - 14	In Class: Exam 2: Chapters 3, 4 5.2 Exponential Functions 5.3 Logarithmic Functions 5.4 Properties of Log Functions	11 14 17 19
		Watch Online Video: 5.5 Exponential, Log Equations Quiz 3: Sections 5.1 – 5.3	20 21
6	November 17 - 21	In Class: 5.6 Applications Exam 3 Review 6.3 Solving Systems in 3 Variables With Matrices	24
7	November 24 - 28	In Class: Exam 3: Chapter 5 6.3 Solving Systems in 3 Variables With Matrices 6.2 Applications	25 December 2 2
		Online: Quiz 4: Sections 6.2, 6.3	2
8	December 1 - 5	In Class: Final Exam Review Final Exam	2 4

**** W-day: November 25th ****

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://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook.html>. *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.*

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:

Kimberly Lachney, Student Accessibility Services Coordinator

Phone: 409-933-8919

Email: AccessibilityServices@com.edu

Location: COM Doyle Family Administration Building, Student Success Center

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 from the 1st 8-week session is October 1. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 14. The last date to withdraw for the 2nd 8-week session is November 25.

FN Grading: The FN grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The FN 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 FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN 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.

Resources to Help with Stress:

If you are experiencing stress or anxiety about your daily living needs including food, housing or just feel you could benefit from free resources to help you through a difficult time, please click

here <https://www.com.edu/community-resource-center/>. College of the Mainland has partnered with free community resources to help you stay on track with your schoolwork, by addressing life issues that get in the way of doing your best in school. All services are private and confidential. You may also contact the Dean of Students office at deanofstudents@com.edu or communityresources@com.edu.

Nondiscrimination Statement:

The College District prohibits discrimination, including harassment, against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and gender expression), or any other basis prohibited by law. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of College District policy.