



**MATH 1314-003IN**  
**College Algebra**  
**FALL 2023**

**Instructor Information:** Gabriela Peña, [gpena3@com.edu](mailto:gpena3@com.edu)  
Office: **STEAM 325-07**  
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**Student hours and location:** Schedule your time via <https://calendly.com/gpena3>  
Monday & Wednesday 12:20 – 1:00pm **Tutoring Center**  
Monday & Wednesday 3:30 – 5:45pm **STEAM 325-07**  
Tuesday 2:45pm – 3:45pm **Online**  
Friday 10:50am – 11:30am **Tutoring Center**

**Required Textbook:** College Algebra, by Beecher, Penna, Bittinger, fifth edition, published by Pearson. Textbooks and/or courseware will be available through VitalSource digitally. Cost of the course materials: \$70.30, **which has already been paid for with your tuition**. The course materials will be available on the first day of class and you will be given the opportunity to opt-out of the e-book prior to the census day of the class. If you choose to opt out then you will not be able to submit any of your assignments, which will lead to not being successful in the class. You will receive an email with more information about the use of the course materials closer to the start of the semester. The homework and quizzes as well as the e-text and videos for this course are online at mymathlab through Brightspace.

**Textbook Purchasing Statement:** E-Book via MyLab Math in Brightspace - D2L  
**(No Purchase Necessary, unless you Opt Out)**

**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.

**Course requirements (including description of any special projects or assignments):**

1. Four Chapter Tests
2. Comprehensive Final Exam
3. *My Math Lab (MML)* Online Assignments
4. Quizzes Assignments

**Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula (methods of evaluation to be employed to include a variety of means to evaluate student performance):**

<b><u>My Math Lab</u> Homework</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Quiz Average</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Chapter Exam (Each Exam is 16%)</b>	<b>64%</b>
<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>16%</b>

**Homework Assignments on MyLab Math:** There is a homework assignment for each section covered in class. These are listed on the course outline beginning on **page 4** of this syllabus. Twenty percent will be deducted from the score of a homework assignment if it is finished by it is due. Although the homework is online at mymathlab.com, and the answers are entered online, you should write your work on paper, neatly showing all steps, and keep it in your notebook with your lecture notes for future reference. Both may serve as an aid for preparing for quizzes and exams, and as a place to begin when seeking assistance from your instructor, the math lab, or from your peers. The student has several attempts to answer a question correctly on the homework assignments.

**Quizzes on MyLab Math:** There are four quizzes which relate to the student learning outcomes. They are to be done on MyLab Math. Unlike the homework assignments, the quizzes must be taken in one sitting, they are timed, and the student only gets one attempt to answer each question. The quizzes can only be taken twice. If not taken by its due date 20% will be deducted. The higher of the two grades will be used to determine the student's quiz average. The scores on these quizzes will be averaged in with the quiz grades on MyLab Math.

**Four Chapter Exams & Final Exam:** There are four exams which cover the chapters in the textbook. The exams are given on the dates listed on the Course Outline. The student has one hour and twenty minutes to take each exam. There are no make-up exams **unless** the student notifies the instructor in writing **prior** to the Exam and the professor determines if it is a legitimate reason. You will take your exam online using **Lockdown Browser**. You are responsible to find an electronic device that supports lock browser, if yours does not. If you are permitted to make-up the exam, there is a deadline for completing the exam, and if the deadline is not met, the score for the exam will be recorded as a zero. You are only allowed to make-up one exam in the semester, given that any necessary paperwork is provided. For your exams you will be required to upload your work in a **PDF format on Brightspace - D2L**. All problems must be numbered, and you must show work to receive credit. If no work is provided for a question, you may lose points for that question. Exams may not be retaken. However, if the grade on the Final Exam is higher than the lowest chapter exam grade, **the Final Exam will replace your lowest Exam score**.

#### **Grading Scale:**

Grade A: Final Average is [89.5, 100]

Grade B: Final Average is [79.5, 89.5)

Grade C: Final Average is [69.5, 79.5)

Grade D: Final Average is [59.5, 69.5)

Grade F: Final Average is [0, 59.5)

Grade I: Given unforeseen circumstances that result in the inability to successfully complete the course objectives, an I-Contract can be requested from the instructor assuming you meet the following criteria:

1. Have a passing overall average (70 or higher)
2. All work completed except for The Final Exam

**Attendance Policy:** Students at COM are expected to attend and participate in every session of all classes for which they are registered. Regular attendance is a critical component to being successful in courses. College of the Mainland recognizes no excused absences other than those prescribed by law. There is a strong correlation between excessive absences and failing grades. It is extremely difficult to succeed in this course without having good attendance. Students with excessive absences will be

referred to Student Services. Students should consult information provided in My Math Lab and the course calendar when it becomes necessary to miss a class in order to be prepared when they return to class. If you are absent, you are still responsible for the work that was to be finished by the next class.

**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.

### Student Learning Outcomes

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

The Core Objective being assessed this semester is Communication.

**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 a quiz or test will receive a zero on that quiz or test and forfeit the chance to retake. In addition, he or she will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for further disciplinary action. For the second offense, students will be given an “F” for the class. Please read the sections on *Standards of Student Conduct and Discipline and Penalties* in the on-line Student Handbook.

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.

**Student 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, Mr. Leslie Richardson at (409)933-8329.

**Course outline:**

Week	Dates	Math 1314-003	Due Dates
1	Aug. 28 – Sept. 3	Syllabus 1.1 Introduction to Graphing 1.2 Functions and Graphs 1.3 Linear Functions, Slope, and Applications 1.4 Equations of Lines	All Week 1 assignments are due 9/4/23 by 11:59PM
2	September 5 – 10	1.5 Linear Equations, Functions, Zeros, Applications <b>Quiz 1 (Sections 1.1-1.5)</b> 2.1 Increasing, Decreasing, and Piecewise Functions	All Week 2 assignments are due 9/11/23 by 11:59PM
3	September 11 – 17	2.2 The Algebra of Functions 2.3 The Composition of Functions	All Week 3 assignments are due 9/18/23 by 11:59PM
4	September 18 – 24	2.5 Transformations Test 1 Review <b>Test 1 (Chapters 1 &amp; 2) [Available from 9/22-9/24]</b>	All Week 4 assignments are due 9/25/23 by 11:59PM
5	September 25 – October 1	3.2 Quadratic Equations, Functions, Zeros, Models 3.3 Analyzing Graphs of Quadratic Functions 4.1 Polynomial Functions	All Week 5 assignments are due 10/2/23 by 11:59PM
6	October 2 – 8	4.2 Graphing Polynomial Functions 4.3 Remainder and Factor Theorems	All Week 6 assignments are due 10/9/23 by 11:59PM
7	October 9 – 15	4.5 Rational Functions <b>Quiz 2 (Sections 3.2, 4.3 &amp; 4.5)</b> Test 2 Review	All Week 7 assignments are due 10/16/23 by 11:59PM
8	October 16 – 22	<b>Test 2 (Chapters 3, 4) [Must be taken 10/16-10/18]</b> 5.1 Inverse Functions	All Week 8 assignments are due 10/23/23 by 11:59PM
9	October 23 – 29	5.2 Exponential Functions and Graphs 5.3 Logarithmic Functions and Graphs <b>Quiz 3 (Sections 5.1-5.3)</b>	All Week 9 assignments are due 10/30/23 by 11:59PM
10	Oct. 30 - Nov 5	5.4 Properties of Logarithmic Functions 5.5 Solving Exponential and Logarithmic Equations	All Week 10 assignments are due 11/6/23 by 11:59PM
11	November 6 – 12	5.6 Applications Test 3 Review <b>Test 3: Chapter 5 [Available from 11/10-11/12]</b>	All Week 11 assignments are due 11/13/23 by 11:59PM
12	November 13 – 19	6.1 Systems of Equations in Two Variables 6.3 Matrices and Systems of Equations	All Week 12 assignments are due 11/20/23 by 11:59PM
13	November 20 – 22	6.2 Systems of Equations in Three Variables	All Week 13 assignments are due 11/27/23 by 11:59PM
14	November 27 – December 3	6.4 Matrix Operations <b>Quiz 4 (Sections 6.1-6.4)</b> Test 4 Review	All Week 14 assignments are due 12/4/23 by 11:59PM
15	December 4 – 10	<b>Test 4: Chapter 6 (NOV. 30) [Available from 12/4-12/6]</b> Review for Final Exam	All Week 15 assignments are due 12/11/23 by 11:59PM
16	December 11 – 13	<b>Final Exam [Available from 12/10-12/12]</b>	All Week 16 assignments are due 12/13/23

**PLEASE NOTE:** The syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

Census Day – September 13, 2023

W-Day – November 28, 2023

## 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 [Student Handbook 2022-2023 v4.pdf \(com.edu\)](#). *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 at 409-933-8919 or [klachney@com.edu](mailto:klachney@com.edu). The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the 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 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week session is March 1. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is April 24. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is May 3.

**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](mailto:deanofstudents@com.edu) or [communityresources@com.edu](mailto:communityresources@com.edu).