



Math 0315.151C3

Foundations of Algebra

Fall 2025

STEAM Bldg., Room 105

M/W: 8:00-9:20 am; 9:30-10:50 am

Friday: 8:00-8:50am; 9:00-9:50am

Instructor Information: Mrs. Calvillo Luna

Email: jsmith56@com.edu –

Include your course & section in the subject line when emailing.

Office phone: 409-933-3816

Office: STEAM Bldg., Suite 325, room 10

Student Hours (Office Hours); Location: STEAM 325-10

1. 11:20 am – 1:30 pm Monday
2. 11:20am-12:30pm Wednesday
2. 12:30 am – 1:30 pm Wednesday (Tutoring Center)
2. 2:00pm-3:00pm (Monday Online by Appointment Only) [TEAMS Meeting](#)
3. 4:15pm – 4:45pm Tuesday/Thursday
4. 12:20pm-1:30pm Friday

Required Textbook/Materials

1. Intermediate Algebra, 8th edition, by Tobey, Slater, Blair and Crawford by Pearson. The etext is provided within *MyLab Math*. **(No purchase necessary)**

2. Access to a desktop computer or laptop and internet service outside of class are required to gain access to the required online assignments. Computers and internet access are available on campus during specified times. *Some devices like iPads/tablets, Chromebooks, and cellphones present problems with gaining access to online MyLab Math assignments.*

Note: MyLab Math generally does not like Safari. Download Chrome or Firefox if you have an Apple computer.

3. *MyLab Math (MLM)* software is required for this class and Math 1314.

4. A **TI-30XIIS calculator** is needed for this course.

5. A free PDF converter app or a printer that can scan documents is needed to submit some assignments/scratch work, etc.

Course Description: This course is designed to develop skills and understanding in the following areas: basic algebra concepts to include exponents, factoring and radicals; relations and functions, inequalities, algebraic expressions, and equations (absolute value, polynomial, radical, rational), with a special emphasis on linear and quadratic expressions and equations. Prerequisites/co-requisites: Prerequisite of TSIA2 Math Diagnostic 4. This course does not transfer.

Course requirements:

MyLab Math (MLM) Online Assignments– Go to your Brightspace course.

You can access D2L Brightspace at COM at <http://com.brightspace.com>. You can also access D2L by going to COM's homepage at <http://www.com.edu>, scroll down to the bottom of the page, and click on the button for D2L Brightspace. Once you gain access to *MyLab Math* within your Brightspace course, you are required to successfully complete an online orientation within MLM before the online assignments will appear. MLM assignments include homework and several online quizzes, and the deadlines for each are provided within MLM. The online homework includes homework from each section and a final exam review. If you opted out of *MyLab Math*, your recorded *MyLab Math* homework and online quiz grades will be zeros.

MLM Online Quizzes– Go to your Brightspace course and locate MyLab Math.

Online quizzes must be completed in one sitting and are timed. You cannot exit the quiz and come back to it as you can with homework. When you have answered all the questions, click submit quiz and the quiz will be graded online with your grade being posted to your gradebook of *MyLab Math*. To see your gradebook, click on the Gradebook button and you can see the scores for all assignments attempted as well as your current average. You can retake each online quiz once to improve your score if the deadline is met. When an online quiz is retaken, the higher quiz grade is used in calculating your overall average. Reviewing a submitted online quiz is only available immediately after submitting.

Other (in-class) Quizzes:

Other quizzes besides *MyLab Math* will be given during the semester. The quizzes can be announced or unannounced and will consist of information contained in homework, textbook, and/or class lectures. To receive credit for the questions, follow instructions and show incremental, organized, and legible work. In addition, use of a pencil/erasable pen is required to show work, and methods used to solve must match the instructions stated in the problem. In-class quizzes are during designated times of the class period and cannot be made up, but the grade from the chapter exam that coincides with the section(s) covered on the quiz will replace the quiz grade if the chapter exam grade is better. If a chapter exam does not coincide with the section(s) covered on the quiz, the 0315 final exam will replace the quiz grade if the final exam grade is better. Arrive on time to class to ensure you have an opportunity to take the quiz.

MyLab Math (MLM) Homework – Go to your Brightspace course and locate MyLab Math.

There is an assigned homework for each section as well as a final review homework assignment. Work problems organized and legibly on notebook paper, so you can reference when asking questions for clarification and for a resource when studying for a quiz/exam.

Within MyLab Math homework:

1. Enter your answers then click the CHECK ANSWER button.
2. If needed, click the SIMILAR EXERCISE button to redo the exercise.
Note: You should strive to score at least 80% before moving on to the next section.
3. If the submitted answer is correct, click on the SAVE button to send your results to the gradebook. Your grade will show up in the GRADEBOOK and will be automatically accessible by your instructor.
4. Click on the next question to continue.

Please note that personal computer problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all coursework in a timely and satisfactory manner. If at any time you experience technical problems with your *MyLab Math* account, please contact Pearson's Customer Technical Support.

In Class Exams:

Three 0315 tests plus a comprehensive final will be given. To receive credit for problems, work provided on the tests/quizzes must justify answers using incremental steps. Use a pencil to show work, and tests and quizzes must be finished within the allotted time. Due to departmental policies, you are not allowed to complete tests in a testing facility beyond the allotted class time. There are no retakes on any of the exams.

Being able to use a computer and gain access to the internet is necessary to complete the required online assignments and to have access to test reviews.

Determination of course Grade/ Grading Formula

Homework Average (My Math Lab & Other Hmwk Assignments)	10%
Online Quiz Average	5%
In-Class Quiz Average	10%
Chapter Test Average	60%
Final Exam	15%

(Retaking the placement test does not affect your grades in this course. Your grade will be based on the information outlined on the previous page.)

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)

Your individual assignment grades and overall course average will be located within your MLM Course Gradebook.

Note: You will be able to access your D2L gradebook, however, your overall course grade will be more accurately reflected on MLM Course Gradebook.

Quizzes- You cannot make up a quiz. A specified deadline will be given, and you will not be allowed to submit late. If the quiz assignment is not submitted or is not submitted by the deadline, a grade of zero will be recorded for the quiz assignment grade.

Note: You have a two-day window to complete the online quizzes — do not wait until the last minute. If you encounter technical difficulties early, I can assist you. However, if issues arise at the last minute (Pass 7pm on the day the quiz is due), I will not be able to help, and no extensions will be granted.

Tests- As a general rule, there are no make-up exams. A make-up exam will only be allowed at the discretion of the instructor and only under extenuating circumstances and is limited to one make-up chapter exam. If it is necessary to miss an exam:

1. You are required to petition the instructor in writing using your COM email **before** the exam is given to be considered for a make-up exam.
2. You must have at least a 75% homework average for Math 0315 at the time of the request.
3. Only extenuating circumstances of a serious nature that are documented will be considered.

Realize not being prepared for the exam is not a legitimate reason for a make-up exam nor is scheduling work/appointments/vacations during the class period. **All other missed tests will be assigned a zero, and the zero(s) will be used to calculate overall grade in course.**

This course most likely will not have any extra credit, so practice, study adequately, learn the information, and meet deadlines for the assignments you do have.

Mandatory Tutoring Policy: Students who fail (below a 70%) any chapter exam must attend a one-hour tutoring session before the next scheduled exam. The session will target areas where the student needs improvement. To verify attendance, students must submit a signed form from their tutor before the next scheduled exam. Failure to complete this requirement will result in a 5 point penalty from their overall grade on the next chapter exam.

Tutoring:

The Tutoring Center is here to support your academic success! We offer free, personalized academic assistance through one-on-one tutoring, available both in person and online. Need help after hours? Tutor.com provides 24/7 support and is accessible through your D2L course shell. Whether you're looking to master course material or boost your learning habits, we're here to help. For more information, visit <https://www.com.edu/tutoring>, email us at tutoringcenter@com.edu, or contact us at 409-933-8703

Success Coaching

The Math Success Coach is here to help you navigate this course and stay on track both academically and personally. Support is offered through one-on-one coaching sessions covering topics such as time management, goal setting, stress management, study habits, and motivation. Whether you're overcoming challenges or aiming to improve your performance, the Math Success Coach provides encouragement, accountability, and practical tools for success. Email successcoaching@com.edu for more information.

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. Students should consult with their instructors when it becomes necessary to miss a class. Students are required to attend all classes. College of the Mainland recognizes no excused absences other than those prescribed by law.

To aid in a successful semester for a face-to-face math class, attendance and being engaged by actively participating to gain knowledge through class discussions and taking detailed and organized notes is essential. Students are not considered to be actively engaged when missing any part of a class and/or when their attention is directed to other sources. Because of this, students will be counted absent when:

1. Arriving to class 15 minutes late or later,
2. Taking break(s) during the class period for a significant amount of time or taking multiple breaks,
3. Sleeping during the class period,
4. Leaving early (15 minutes or longer), and/or
5. Using cellphone(s) and/or earbuds/headsets during the class period since students are expected to have a productive workspace and be engaged with the class discussions to aid students in having an environment that is conducive to optimal learning.

You cannot make-up classes, and it is your responsibility to be punctual and regular at attending class. If you find that you are having trouble arriving on time, adjust your schedule accordingly. Also, please be advised that it is **your** responsibility to get caught up when a class is missed.

Remember: EACH DAY OF THE WEEK, EXCLUDING FRIDAYS, THAT WE MEET COUNTS AS TWO CLASS PERIODS. EACH FRIDAY COUNTS AS TWO CLASS PERIOD.

If some of the 0315 homework assignments have not been attempted before Friday, Aug 22nd an Early Alert referral will be submitted.

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 respond to your email as quickly as possible (usually within 24 hours). *I recommend downloading the Outlook app on your smartphone for easy access to COM email and to check your COM email at LEAST once per day.*

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 engaged in academic dishonesty on an assignment, quiz, or exam will receive a zero for that work, with no opportunity to retake it. The zero will be included in the final grade calculation for the course. A second offense will result in a final grade of **F** for the course. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams or quizzes is an extremely serious offense and will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate disciplinary action.

Note: There is a zero-tolerance policy for the use of cell phone or any other electronic devices during quizzes and exams. Possession or use of a cell phone during any assessment will be considered academic dishonesty and handled accordingly. Additionally, using any calculator on a quiz or test when it is not allowed will be considered cheating as well as using a calculator other than a TI-30XIIS calculator (or an approved scientific calculator) on a calculator approved quiz or test.

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 Mr. Leslie Richardson, Math Department Chair, at 409-933-8329 or lrichardson@com.edu.

Additional Policies

Unattended Minors/Children in Class

For their safety, unattended minors of students are not permitted on campus while students are in class. In consideration of fellow classmates and staff, please do not bring children to class.

Productive Workplace

Students are expected to bring all tools necessary for success to class every day. These tools include writing implements, notebook/note paper, and an approved calculator. **Food and drinks, except for bottled water, are not allowed in classrooms.** All other items (backpacks, purses, bags, laptops, etc.) must be placed between your feet. In addition, headsets/wireless earbuds and cell phones are to be placed in your backpack, etc. before class starts.

Classroom Conduct Policy

Arriving on time, staying the entire class period, eliminating distractions like cell phones, using appropriate language (no cursing), respecting your classmates and the instructor, and cleaning up after yourself are all expectations for students in the classroom. Please abide by these expectations so that the class setting is enjoyable for all students. Regarding cell phones, they should be turned off or set on airplane mode and in your backpack/purse (not on your desk). It is extremely disruptive to the learning environment, so you will be asked to leave if it is a continuous problem. You are not allowed to use laptops during class. You may **ONLY** use a tablet for note taking purposes. Infractions may result in an automatic withdrawal from the class. Cell phones **cannot** be used during tests or quizzes and refer to testing policies for additional

information. Please notify me before class if you have an emergency that requires you to answer your phone during class. Make sure to take an emergency phone call outside of the classroom.

Recording of Class

Students may not record all or part of class and/or all or part of a livestream without advanced written consent of the instructor. If you have or think you may have a disability such that you need to record class-related activities, please contact the Student Disability Services. If you have an accommodation to record class-related activities, those recordings may not be shared with any other student, whether in this course or not, or with any other person or on any other platform. If any instructor's recordings are provided, students may use instructor's recordings for their own studying and notetaking. Instructor's recordings are not authorized to be shared with anyone without the prior written approval of the instructor. Failure to comply with requirements regarding recordings may result in a disciplinary referral and/or disciplinary action.

Testing Policy

Prohibited devices include, but are not limited to:

- Cell phones; smart phones; smart watches
- Audio players/recorders, tablets, laptops, notebooks, or any other personal computing devices
- Separate timers
- Cameras or any other photographic equipment
- Any devices, including digital watches, that can be used to record, transmit, receive, or play back audio, photographic, text, or video content.

If your device makes a sound or is in your possession when the device goes off, you may be dismissed, and your score may be recorded as a zero.

If you leave the classroom at any time during an exam, the exam must be submitted for grading. Therefore, it is strongly advised that students take care of all personal business prior to entering the classroom to take an exam.

Using any electronic device other than a TI-30XIIS calculator or an approved scientific calculator on a quiz or test will be considered cheating.

Course outline:

Tentative Schedule

Week	<i>Assignment-due date</i>
1 Aug. 18, 20, 22	<i>MyLab Math Orientation – 90% required to gain access to homework.</i> 1.5 Operations with Variables & Grouping Symbols- Aug. 20 1.6 Evaluating Variable Expressions & Formulas- Aug. 22 2.1 First Degree Equations with One Unknown- Aug. 22 2.4 Solving Word Problems- Aug. 22 2.6 Linear Inequalities- Aug. 25
2 Aug. 25, 27, 29	1.3 Absolute Value Equations Aug.27 1.4 Quiz A: Sections 1.5, 1.6, 2.1, 2.3 & 2.4 – Aug. 25-Aug. 27 2.8 Absolute Value Inequalities- Aug. 29 Scavenger Hunt Homework Assignment- Aug. 29 (Available on Brightspace) Review for Test 1 3.1 Graphing Linear Equations Sep. 3
3 Sep. 1, 3, 5	Test 1: 1.5, 1.6, & Chapter 2 – (1st class period on Sep. 3) 3.2 Slope of a Line – Sep.5 3.3 Equations of a Line- Sep. 8 Quiz B: Sections 3.1-3.3 – Sep 8-Sep. 11 4.1 Systems of Linear Equations- Sep. 10

4 Sep. 8, 10, 12	4.1 Systems of Linear Equations- Sep. 10 4.3 Applications of Systems of Equations- Sep. 10 Review for Test 2 1.4 Rules of Exponents (exclude scientific notation)- Sep. 15 Test 2: Chapters 3, 4 – (Sep. 12)	
5 Sep. 15, 17, 19	1.4 Rules of Exponents (exclude scientific notation)- Sep. 15 5.1 Polynomials: Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying- Sep. 17 5.3 Synthetic Division - Sep. 17 Quiz C: Sections 1.4, 5.1, 5.3 – Sep. 15-17 5.4 GCF, Factor by Grouping- Sep. 19 5.5 Factoring Trinomials- Sep. 19 5.6 Special Case Factoring- Sep. 22 5.8 Solving Equations by Factoring- Sep. 22	
6 Sep. 22, 24, 26	Review for Test 3 6.1 Rational Expressions, Simplifying, Multiply, Divide- Sep. 26 Test 3: 1.4 & Chapters 5 – (1st class period on Sep. 24) 6.2 Add/Subtract Rational Expressions- Sep. 26 3.5 Concept of a Function- Sep. 29	
7 Sep. 29 & Oct. 1, 3	Math 0315 3.6 Graphing Functions- Oct. 1- (Major Quiz Info) 7.2 Radical Expressions and Functions (square root only)- Oct. 1 7.3 Simplifying, Adding and Subtracting Radicals- Oct. 1 7.4 Multiplying, Dividing Radicals-(exclude division)- Oct. 1 7.6 Complex Numbers (exclude division)- Oct. 6	Math 1314 1.1 Introduction to Graphing- Oct. 8
8 Oct. 6, 8, 10	Math 0315 7.6 Complex Numbers (exclude division)- Oct. 6	Math 1314 1.2 Functions and Graphs- Oct. 8 1.3 Linear Functions, Slope & Applications- Oct. 8 1.4 Equations of Lines- Oct. 8 1.5 Linear Equations, Functions, Zeros, Applications -Oct. 10 Quiz A (Sections 1.1-1.5) – Oct. 8-Oct. 10 2.1 Increasing, Decreasing, and Piecewise Functions- Oct. 13
9 Oct. 13, 15 17	Math 0315	Math 1314 2.2 The Algebra of Functions- Oct. 15 2.3 The Composition of Functions- Oct. 15 2.5 Transformations- Oct. 17 Test 1 Review 3.2 Quadratic Equations, Functions, Zeros, Models- Oct. 22

10 Oct. 20, 22, 24	<i>Math 0315</i>	<i>Math 1314</i> Test 1 (Chapters 1 & 2) – (1st class period, Oct. 20) 3.2 Quadratic Equations, Functions, Zeros, Models- Oct. 22 3.3 Graphs of Quadratic Functions- Oct. 24 4.1 Polynomial Functions- Oct. 24 4.2 Graphing Polynomial Functions- Oct. 24 4.3 Remainder and Factor Theorems- Oct. 27
11 Oct. 27, 29 31	<i>Math 0315</i>	<i>Math 1314</i> 4.3 Remainder and Factor Theorems- Oct. 27 4.5 Rational Functions- Oct. 29 Quiz B (Sections 3.2, 4.3 & 4.5) – Oct. 27-Oct. 29) Test 2 Review 5.1 Inverse Functions (<i>Test 3 info</i>)- Nov. 3 Test 2 (Chapters 3, 4) – (1st class period, Oct. 31)
12 Nov. 3, 5, 7	<i>Math 0315</i>	<i>Math 1314</i> 5.1 Inverse Functions (<i>Test 3 info</i>)- Nov. 3 5.2 Exponential Functions and Graphs- Nov. 5 5.3 Logarithmic Functions and Graphs- Nov. 5 Quiz C (Sections 5.1-5.3) – Nov. 5-Nov. 7 5.4 Properties of Logarithmic Functions- Nov. 7 5.5 Solving Exponential & Logarithmic Eqs- Nov. 10
13 Nov. 10, 12, 14	<i>Math 0315</i> Comprehensive Final Exam Review- Nov. 14	<i>Math 1314</i> 5.6 Applications- Nov. 10 Test 3 Review Test 3: Chapter 5 – (1st class period, Nov. 12th) 6.1 Systems of Equations in Two Variables (<i>Test 4 info</i>)- Nov. 14
14 Nov. 17, 19, 21	Comprehensive Final Exam-1st - class period, Nov. 17)	<i>Math 1314</i> 6.3 Matrices and Systems of Equations- Nov. 21 6.2 Systems of Equations in Three Variables- Nov. 21 Quiz D (Sections 6.1-6.3) –Nov. 21 -Nov. 23 Chapter 6 Review
15 Nov. 24, 26, 28		<i>Math 1314</i> Review Chapter 6 In-class Quiz Chapter 6 Review for Comprehensive Final Exam
16 Dec. 1, 4		<i>Math 1314</i> Comprehensive Final Exam (2-hr exam, Dec. 1st)

PLEASE NOTE: The syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.
W-Day –Nov. 14th

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.