



**Math 0315.136H1**  
**Foundations of Algebra**  
**Fall 2024**

**Hybrid (Lecture 50% and Online Learning 50%)**

**MW 11:00 am – 12:20 pm STE119**

**F 10:00 am – 10:50 am STE119**

**Instructor Information:** James Griffiths 409-933-8225 [jgriffiths@com.edu](mailto:jgriffiths@com.edu)

**Student hours and location:** MTWTh 10:00 am – 11:00 am in STE-325-08  
(first 8-weeks) MW (co-req) 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm in ICB-109  
MW 4:45 pm – 5:30 pm in STE-325-08

**Required Textbook:** Intermediate Algebra, 8<sup>th</sup> edition, by Tobey, Slater, Blair and Crawford by Pearson. The e-text is provided with *MyLab Math*. The student will need a computer and internet service outside of class to gain access to the online assignments on *MyLab Math*. Computers and internet access are available on campus during specified times. A Texas Instruments TI30XIIS scientific calculator is recommended for this course. A pencil is required for all assignments. A ruler is required for sketching graphs.

**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. Prerequisite: TSIA2 Math Diagnostic 4. This course does not transfer.

**Course requirements:**

**Note:** Electronic devices, including computers, I-pads, cellphones, ear-buds, audio recorders may not be used, and must be put away (off the student's desk and out of sight) during class. If the instructor sees one of these items during class, the student will be asked to leave class.

**Homework Assignments on *MyLab Math*:** There is a homework assignment for each unit covered. Each day's homework assignments must be completed by 11:59 pm on the due date shown on both the course outline and on the list of assignments on *MyLab Math*. The student should do the assignments as soon as possible after participating in the lecture, watching the associated video(s) on *MyLab Math* or reading the appropriate section in the textbook.

Although the homework is online and the answers are entered online, the student should write their work on paper, neatly showing all steps, and keep it in their notebook with the lecture notes for future reference, both as an aid for preparing for quizzes and exams, and as a place to begin when seeking assistance from their professor, peers, or the college tutoring center.

**Quizzes on MyLab Math:** Four quizzes will be taken on *MyLab Math*. Like the homework assignments, the due dates are shown on both the course outline in the syllabus and on the assignment list on *MyLab Math*. Unlike the homework assignments, the quizzes must be taken in one sitting, they are timed, and the student gets only **one** attempt to answer each question. The quizzes may be retaken **one** time. The higher of the two grades will be used to determine the student's quiz average.

**Note:** It is important that the student read and understand the suggestions on page 2 of the Orientation Notes, which discuss taking quizzes or exams on *MyLab Math*. The Orientation Notes can be found among the major tabs for this course on Brightspace D2L. Failing to follow the suggestions presented in the Orientation Notes may cause a quiz or exam to be terminated. The instructor will not change a grade on any assignment on *MyLab Math*. Nor will the instructor reopen a quiz or exam from which the student has been locked out.

**Chapter Exams:** There are four exams which cover the chapters in the text book. Two of the exams are taken in class and two of the exams are taken on *MyLab Math*. The due dates for all of the exams are shown on the course outline in the syllabus, but only the due dates of the two exams taken on *MyLab Math* are shown in the assignment list on *MyLab Math*. The student has 90 minutes to take each exam. **Exams may not be retaken.** However, if the grade on the final exam is higher than the lowest chapter exam grade, the final exam grade will replace the lowest chapter exam grade, provided the student has not made up an exam.

**Comprehensive Final Exam:** The final exam is taken in class on the due date shown on the course outline in the syllabus. The student has 90 minutes to take the final exam. **The final exam may not be retaken.**

**Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:**

Homework Average	10%
Quiz Average	10%
Average of Chapter Exams	60%
<u>Comprehensive Final Exam</u>	<u>20%</u>
Final Average	100%

**Grade I:** Given unforeseen circumstances that result in the student's inability to successfully complete the course objectives, an I-Contract may be requested from the instructor assuming the following criteria have been met:

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

**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)

**Late Work, Make-Up Exams, and Extra-Credit Policy:**

**Late Work:** There is a twenty (20) point penalty for all homework and quizzes submitted after the due date. Any homework assignments or quizzes that are not finished by the date and time of the associated exam will be given a grade of zero at the time the exam is given.

**Make-Up Exams:** **There are no make-up exams** unless:

- 1) the student notifies the instructor that they will miss the exam before the time and date the exam is scheduled, and
- 2) the reason for the requested make-up exam is extraordinary, such as the death of a close family member, or the student's admittance to the hospital.  
(Transportation problems, minor illness, or scheduled doctor appointments are not extraordinary reasons for missing an exam.)

Students will **not** be permitted to make up **more than one** exam. If the student makes up an exam, the final exam will no longer replace the student's lowest exam grade.

**Extra Credit:** **Three** points extra credit is given on exams if the student earns a score of **100** on the review. Extra-credit assignments may also be given throughout the course at the discretion of the instructor. The total extra credit points for any exam may not raise an exam grade above **100**. Extra credit is **never** given at the end of the semester to bring up a grade. Don't even ask.

**Attendance Policy:** Students at COM are expected to attend and participate in every session of all classes for which they are registered. College of the Mainland recognizes no excused absences other than those prescribed by law. Students with excessive absences (more than two) will be referred to Student Services. Students should consult information provided in *MyLab Math* and the course calendar when it becomes necessary to miss a class in order to be prepared when they return to class. The student is still responsible for work that is assigned during an absence and due dates are firm.

A student is tardy if they enter the classroom after class begins. Class begins and ends based on the time on the clock in the classroom. Punctuality is a matter of consideration for other people. When a student arrives to class late or leaves early, they create a distraction to their peers and the professor, delaying or disrupting the learning process. Students who repeatedly arrive late or leave early (more than once) will be referred to Student Services. Four tardies or early departures will be counted as one absence.

**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 **preferred** method of communication in this course is in person. If that is not possible, an email or phone call will be satisfactory, but do not leave a message on my phone. If you cannot reach me by phone, email me. Be sure to include your name, the course in which you are enrolled, and state your question completely.

**Student Learner Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of MATH 0315, 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 and linear inequalities.
5. Model, interpret and justify mathematical ideas and concepts using multiple representations.
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.

**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 of *Standards of Student Conduct and Discipline and Penalties* in the on-line Student Handbook

**Student Concerns:** If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me. If, after discussing your concerns with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Mr. Leslie Richardson, Math Department Chair, at 409-933-8329 or [lrichardson@com.edu](mailto:lrichardson@com.edu).

**Course outline:**

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Sections</u>
1	8/19	<b><u>In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:</u></b> Syllabus – Orientation Exercises Due 8/22 1.5 Operations with Variables & Grouping Symbols Due 8/22  <b><u>Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:</u></b> 1.6 Evaluating Variable Expressions & Formulas Due 8/22
	8/21	<b><u>In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:</u></b> 2.1 First Degree Equations with One Unknown Due 8/24  <b><u>Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:</u></b> 2.4 Solving Word Problems Due 8/24
	8/23	<b><u>In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:</u></b> 2.6 Linear Inequalities Due 8/25  <b><u>Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:</u></b> 2.3 Absolute Value Equations Due 8/25 <b>Quiz 1 (1.5, 1.6, 2.1, 2.3, 2.4) Due 8/25</b>
2	8/26	<b><u>In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:</u></b> 2.8 Absolute Value Inequalities Due 8/28  <b><u>Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:</u></b> Review for Exam 1 Due 8/28
	8/28	<b><u>In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:</u></b> 3.1 Graphing Linear Inequalities Due 9/1  <b><u>Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:</u></b> <b>Exam 1 (1.5 – 2.8) Due 8/29</b>
	8/30	<b><u>In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:</u></b> 3.2 Slope of a Line Due 9/2  <b><u>Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:</u></b> 3.3 Equations of Lines Due 9/2 <b>Quiz 2 (3.1 – 3.3) Due 9/2</b>
3	9/2	HOLIDAY
	9/4	<b><u>In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:</u></b> 4.1 Systems of Linear Equations Due 9/7  <b><u>Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:</u></b> 4.1 Systems of Linear Equations Due 9/7

- 9/6 **In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:**  
4.3 Applications of Systems of Equations Due 9/8
- Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:**  
Review for Exam 2 Due 9/8
- 4 9/9 **In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:**  
**Exam 2 (3.1 – 4.3) Due 9/9**
- Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:**  
1.4 Rules of Exponents (excluding scientific notation) Due 9/12
- 9/11 **In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:**  
5.1 Polynomials: Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying Due 9/14
- Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:**  
5.1 Polynomials: Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying Due 9/14
- 9/13 **In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:**  
5.3 Synthetic Division Due 9/15
- Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:**  
**Quiz 3 (1.4, 5.1, 5.3) Due 9/15**
- 5 9/16 **In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:**  
5.4 GCF & Factoring by Grouping Due 9/19
- Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:**  
5.4 GCF & Factoring by Grouping Due 9/19
- 9/18 **In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:**  
5.5 Factoring Trinomials Due 9/21
- Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:**  
5.5 Factoring Trinomials Due 9/21
- 9/20 **In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:**  
5.6 Special Case Factoring Due 9/22
- Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:**  
5.6 Special Case Factoring Due 9/22
- 6 9/23 **In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:**  
5.8 Solving Equations Using Factoring Due 9/26
- Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:**  
Review for Exam 3 Due 9/26

9/25 **In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:**  
6.1 Simplify, Multiply, Divide Rational Expressions Due 9/28

**Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:**  
**Exam 3 (1.4, 5.1 – 5.8) Due 9/26**

9/27 **In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:**  
6.2 Add, Subtract Rational Expressions Due 9/29

**Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:**  
7.2 Radical Expressions and Functions Due 9/29

7 9/30 **In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:**  
7.3 Simplify Add Subtract Radical Expressions Due 10/3

**Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:**  
7.4 Multiply, Divide Radical Expressions Due 10/3  
**Quiz 4 (7.2 – 7.4) Due 10/3**

\*\*\*\*\* The Last Day to Withdraw from this Class is October 2 \*\*\*\*\*

10/2 **In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:**  
7.6 Complex Numbers Due 10/3

**Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:**  
Review for Exam 4 Due 10/3

10/4 **In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:**  
**Exam 4 (6.1 – 7.6) Due 10/4**

**Watch the online videos and complete MLM Assignments:**  
Review for Comprehensive Final Exam Due 10/6

8 10/7 **In Class Lectures and complete MLM Assignments:**  
**Comprehensive Final Exam Due 10/7**

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

## 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/docs/Student\\_Handbook\\_2024-2025\\_v2.pdf](https://www.com.edu/student-services/docs/Student_Handbook_2024-2025_v2.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.*

**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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week session is October 2. The last date to withdraw from the 16-week session is November 15. The last date to withdraw for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session is November 26.

**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).

**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.