

South Plains College
Common Course Syllabus: College Algebra (MATH 1314)
Fall 2020

Department: Mathematics, Engineering, and Computer Science

Discipline: Mathematics

Course Number: MATH 1314

Section: 002 (Wednesdays, 1:00-2:45pm, Student Services building, room SS101)

Course Title: College Algebra

Available Formats: conventional/flex, internet, and ITV. This class will be the conventional/flex format.

Campuses: Levelland, Reese, Plainview, Lubbock Center, and Dual Credit. This class meets on the Levelland campus in the Student Services building, room SS101.

Course Description: In-depth study and applications of polynomial, rational, radical, exponential and logarithmic functions, and systems of equations using matrices. Additional topics such as sequences, series, probability, and conics may be included.

Prerequisite: Minimum score of 350 on the TSIA, TSI-exempt status, or a successful completion with a grade of 'C' or better in Intermediate Algebra (MATH 0320).

Credit: 3 **Lecture:** 3 **Lab:** 1

Instructor: Jay Driver

Telephone: (806) 716-2780

Office: Math and Engineering building, office 114

Email: The instructor may be emailed through Blackboard or at jdriver@southplainscollege.edu.

Email Policy: All students at South Plains College are assigned a standardized SPC e-mail account. Although personal email addresses will continue to be collected, the assigned SPC e-mail account will be used as the official channel of communication for South Plains College. The Student Correspondence Policy can be found at www.southplainscollege.edu. To access the SPC student e-mail account, log in to portal.office.com. (Copied from SPC Student Guide) Since all students have an assigned SPC email, the instructor will only acknowledge, respond, and send emails to your assigned SPC email. This ensures all correspondence from the instructor is received by the intended recipient.

Virtual/Face-to-Face Office Hours:

- Mondays, 9:00-11:00am.
- Tuesdays, 11:00am-12:00pm, 1:00pm-3:00pm.
- Thursdays, 1:30pm-3:30pm.
- And by appointment (scheduled in Blackboard).

Virtual Office Hours: accessed through the given link in Blackboard.

- Fridays, 9:00-11:00am.
- And by appointment (scheduled in Blackboard).

Textbook: The recommended textbook for this course may be any one of the following:

- Beecher, J. A., Penna, J. A., Johnson, B. L., & Bittinger, M. L. (2016). *College Algebra with Intermediate Algebra: A Blended Course* (1st ed.). Pearson. ISBN 978-0-134-55596-6.
- Blitzer, R. F. (2017). *College Algebra (7th Edition)* (7th ed.). Pearson. ISBN 978-0-134-46916-4.

- Blitzer, R. F. (2012). *College Algebra (6th Edition)* (6th ed.). Pearson. ISBN 978-0-321-78228-1.
- Blitzer, R. F. (2019). *College Algebra* (5th ed.). Pearson. ISBN 0-321-55983-5.

Supplies: You will need a scientific calculator and a small supply of graph paper. Calculators on cell phones, TI-89, TI-92, or TI-Inspire calculators, or any other electronic devices will not be allowed during testing without permission from the instructor. Make certain you have access to a scanner or scanning app such as CamScanner, Scannable, OneDrive, etc. in order to scan your assignments/quizzes and submit them through Blackboard.

Blackboard: Blackboard is the online course management system that will be utilized for this course. This course is supplemented online, so all access to course information and your instructor is through the Internet. This course syllabus, as well as all course materials can be accessed through Blackboard. Login at <https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com/>. The user name and password should be the same as the MySPC and SPC email.

User name: first initial, last name, and last 4 digits of the Student ID

Password: Original CampusConnect Pin No. (found on SPC acceptance letter)

Questions regarding Blackboard support may be emailed to blackboard@southplainscollege.edu or by telephone to 806-716-2180.

This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement: Mathematics Foundational Component Area (020)

Core Curriculum Objectives addressed:

- **Communications skills**—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- **Critical thinking skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Empirical and quantitative competency skills**—to manipulate and analyze numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course and receiving a passing grade, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate and apply knowledge of properties of functions, including domain and range, operations, compositions, and inverses.
2. Recognize and apply polynomial, rational, radical, exponential and logarithmic functions and solve related equations.
3. Apply graphing techniques.
4. Evaluate all roots of higher degree polynomial and rational functions.
5. Recognize, solve and apply systems of linear equations using matrices.

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment: A pre- and post-test questions will be used to determine the extent of improvement that the students have gained during the semester

Course Evaluation: There will be departmental final exam questions given by all instructors. Assignments will count for 20% of the final grade, while exams count for 80% of the final grade. Expect 23 assignments and 4 scheduled exams throughout the course. Your final average in the course will determine the letter grade posted on your transcript. This grade is determined by the following scale:
A (90-100%), B (80-89%), C (70-79%), D (60-69%), F (0-59%).

- Assignments/Quizzes (23 assignments and 11 quizzes) = 20%
- Exam 1 (covering Assignments 1-6) = 20%
- Exam 2 (covering Assignments 7-11) = 20%
- Exam 3 (covering Assignments 12-17) = 20%
- Exam 4 (covering Assignments 18-23 and major topics from previous exams) = 20%.

To maximize your potential for successfully completing this course:

- login to Blackboard daily
- watch the lecture videos and take notes on them
- thoroughly complete and submit the assignments on time
- practice the exercises repeatedly until you have full mastery of them;

Attendance/Student Engagement Policy: Attendance and effort are the most important activities for success in this course. The instructor maintains records of the student's attendance and participation throughout the semester. The student will be allowed to miss twenty percent (20%) of class assignments for the semester, *for any reason*. Should this number be exceeded, the instructor has the right to drop the student with a grade of F or an X, depending on the instructor's discretion.

Before arriving for the class meeting, make certain you have:

1. worked through the notes and videos for that week's lessons;
2. completed a majority of the assigned exercises.

Upon arriving at the class meeting, we will:

1. answer questions over exercises;
2. work through lab exercises;
3. submit assignments and quizzes.

Major exams will be at specified Wednesday face-to-face meetings in SS101 from 1:00-2:45pm.

Assignments and Exams: The following is a sequential list of the assignments and exams.

1. Linear and Rational Equations
2. Linear Applications
3. Complex Numbers and Quadratic Equations (part 1 of 2)
4. Quadratic Equations (part 2 of 2)
5. Other Types of Equations
6. Linear and Absolute Value Inequalities

Exam 1 (20%)

7. Functions and Their Graphs
8. Linear Functions and Slope
9. Distance, Midpoint, and Circles
10. Combinations, Compositions, and Inverse Functions
11. Quadratic Functions

Exam 2 (20%)

12. Roots and Graphs of Polynomial Functions
13. Rational Functions and Their Graphs
14. Polynomial and Rational Inequalities
15. Exponential and Logarithmic Functions
16. Properties of Logarithms
17. Exponential and Logarithmic Equations

Exam 3 (20%)

18. 2x2 and 3x3 Linear Systems
19. Matrix Solutions to Systems
20. Partial Fractions
21. Nonlinear Systems and Systems of Inequalities
22. Determinants and Cramer's Rule
23. The Binomial Theorem

Exam 4 (20%)

Assignment Format and Policy: Assignments are given after each lesson and are collected according to the calendar below. Expect a quiz to accompany each assignment. For each question on each assignment:

- Write the question number.

- In solving the problem, show all necessary work.
- Clearly mark your answer.
- Check your answers in Blackboard to make certain you are practicing the exercises correctly.
- Write your name at the top of each page of your work.
- Submit the assignment in Blackboard as a single pdf file. (Pdf files can be generated easily using a scanner or many freely available phone apps, like CamScanner, Scannable, or OneDrive.)

Late assignments will be accepted with a 10% deduction. No late quizzes will be accepted. Make certain to complete and submit assignments on time (or early). Early submissions are welcomed! Again, expect a quiz to be administered with each assignment collection.

Exam Format and Policy: There are four (4) units of study in this course. At the conclusion of each unit is a face-to-face examination on specified Wednesdays, 1:00-2:45pm. If there becomes a quarantine issue or movement of this class to an online setting, then adequate internet supplies will be needed, such as a webcam, microphone, and access to online collaborative tools like Blackboard Collaborate or Zoom.

Tentative Course Calendar: Below is a calendar view of assignment and exam due dates and times.

Date	Topics (assignment is included with each lesson)	Due Date
Wk1: Aug 24-28	Course Introduction Lsn1: Linear and Rational Equations Lsn2: Linear Applications	Wed, Aug 26: Qz1 due by 2:45pm. Lsns 1&2 due by 8:00pm.
Wk2: Aug 31- Sep 4	Lsn3: Complex Numbers & Quadratic Eqns (part 1 of 2) Lsn4: Quadratic Equations (part 2 of 2)	Wed, Sep 2: Qz2 due by 2:45pm. Lsns 3&4 due by 8:00pm.
Wk3: Sep 8-11 (Mon, Sep 7 is Labor Day holiday.)	Lsn5: Other Types of Equations Lsn6: Linear & Absolute Value Inequalities	Wed, Sep 9: Qz3 due by 2:45pm. Lsns 5&6 due by 8:00pm.
Wk4: Sep 14-18	Exam 1 (Wed, Sep 16) The exam will begin at 1:00pm and be due by 2:45pm.	Wed, Sep 16, 2:45pm.
Wk5: Sep 21-25	Lsn7: Functions and Their Graphs Lsn8: Linear Functions and Slope	Wed, Sep 23: Qz4 due by 2:45pm. Lsns 7&8 due by 8:00pm.
Wk6: Sep 28- Oct 2	Lsn9: Distance, Midpoint, Circles Lsn10: Combinations, Compositions, and Inverses	Wed, Sep 30: Qz5 due by 2:45pm. Lsns 9&10 due by 8:00pm.
Wk7: Oct 5-9	Lsn11: Quadratic Functions	Wed, Oct 7: Qz6 due by 2:45pm. Lsn11 due by 8:00pm.
Wk8: Oct 12-15 (Fri, Oct 16 is Fall Break.)	Exam 2 (Wed, Oct 14) The exam will begin at 1:00pm and be due by 2:45pm.	Wed, Oct 14, 2:45pm.
Wk9: Oct 19-23	Lsn12: Polynomial Functions Lsn13: Rational Functions	Wed, Oct 21: Qz7 due by 2:45pm. Lsns 12&13 due by 8:00pm.
Wk10: Oct 26-30	Lsn14: Polynomial & Rational Inequalities Lsn15: Exponential & Logarithmic Functions	Wed, Oct 28: Qz8 due by 2:45pm. Lsns 14&15 due by 8:00pm.
Wk11: Nov 2-6	Lsn16: Properties of Logs Lsn17: Exp. and Log. Equations	Wed, Nov 4: Qz9 due by 2:45pm. Lsns 16&17 due by 8:00pm.
Wk12: Nov 9-13	Exam 3 (Wed, Nov 11) The exam will begin at 1:00pm and be due by 2:45pm.	Wed, Nov 11, 2:45pm.
Wk13: Nov 16-20	Lsn18: 2x2 and 3x3 Systems Lsn19: Matrix Solutions to Systems	Wed, Nov 18: Qz10 due by 2:45pm. Lsns 18&19 due by 8:00pm.

Wk14: Nov 23-24 (Wed-Fri is Thanksgiving holiday.)	Lsn20: Partial Fractions Lsn21: Nonlinear Systems and Systems of Inequalities	Tue, Nov 24: Lsns 20&21 due by 8:00pm.
Wk15: Nov 30-Dec 4	Lsn22: Determinants & Cramer's Rule Lsn23: The Binomial Theorem	Wed, Dec 2: Qz11 due by 2:45pm. Lsns 22&23 due by 8:00pm.
Wk16: Dec 7-10 (Semester ends Fri, Dec 11.)	Exam 4 (Wed, Dec 9) This exam is the cumulative final exam that will be from 10:15am-12:15pm in SS101.	Wed, Dec 9, 12:15pm.

Academic Integrity (Plagiarism and Cheating Policy): “Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work. This idea applies to quizzes of whatever length as well to final examinations, to daily reports, and to term papers” (*SPC General Catalog*).

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
4. Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
4. Entering an office or building to obtain an unfair advantage;
5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records;
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

COVID: It is the policy of South Plains College for the Fall 2020 semester that as a condition of on-campus enrollment, all students are required to engage in safe behaviors to avoid the spread of COVID-19 in the SPC community. Such behaviors specifically include the requirement that all students properly wear CDC-compliant face coverings while in SPC buildings including in classrooms, labs, hallways, and restrooms. Failure to comply with this policy may result in dismissal from the current class session. If the student refuses to leave the classroom or lab after being dismissed, the student may be referred to the Dean of Students on the Levelland campus or the Dean/Director of external centers for Student Code of Conduct Violation.

Student Code of Conduct Policy: Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

Diversity Statement: In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

Disability Statement: Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

Nondiscrimination Policy: South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement: If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To [activate](#) accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact the Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or [email cgilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

Campus Concealed Carry: Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations and Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the Campus Carry page at: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php>
Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

SPC Bookstore Price Match Guarantee Policy: If you find a lower price on a textbook, the South Plains College bookstore will match that price. The difference will be given to the student on a bookstore gift certificate! The gift certificate can be spent on anything in the store.

If students have already purchased textbooks and then find a better price later, the South Plains College bookstore will price match through the first week of the semester. The student must have a copy of the receipt and the book has to be in stock at the competition at the time of the price match.

The South Plains College bookstore will happily price match BN.com & books on Amazon noted as *ships from and sold by Amazon.com*. Online marketplaces such as *Other Sellers* on Amazon, Amazon's Warehouse Deals, *fulfilled by Amazon*, BN.com Marketplace, and peer-to-peer pricing are not eligible. They will price match the exact textbook, in the same edition and format, including all accompanying materials, like workbooks and CDs.

A textbook is only eligible for price match if it is in stock on a competitor's website at time of the price match request. Additional membership discounts and offers cannot be applied to the student's refund.

Price matching is only available on in-store purchases. Digital books, access codes sold via publisher sites, rentals and special orders are not eligible. Only one price match per title per customer is allowed.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.