

South Plains College

Syllabus for

Mathematics 1314 / College Algebra / 2018-2019

Instructor: Tim Martin
Room LCHS 206
Email: tmartin@lcsd.net

Office Hours: during regular school hours
Phone: (806)863-7105 ext. 5504

Reference Textbook

Beecher, J. A., Penna, J. A., Johnson, B. L., & Bittinger, M. L. (2017). *College algebra with intermediate algebra: A blended course*. Boston: Pearson. *The hardcopy is optional. MyMathLab will be required.*

Supplies

A supply of pencils, pens, a spiral and one or more folders for completing assignments, taking notes, etc. will be needed.

Course Description

This is a standard course in college algebra. Quadratic equations; ratio and proportion; variation; binomial theorem; inequalities; complex numbers; theory of equations; determinants and matrices, et al.

Course Purpose

The purpose of the course is to provide a fundamental background in algebra to meet the mathematics requirement for the core curriculum and to provide a basis for further study in mathematics.

Course Requirements

To maximize the potential to complete this course, a student should attend all class meetings, take notes and participate in class, complete all homework assignments and examinations including final examinations.

Student Learning Outcomes/Competencies

Successful completion of this course should reflect the mastery of the following college-level objectives:

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

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. (from current South Plains College Faculty Handbook)

Core Objectives

Communication Skills

Effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication:

- Develop, interpret, and express ideas through written communication
- Develop, interpret, and express ideas through oral communication
- Develop, interpret, and express ideas through visual communication

Critical Thinking Skills

Creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information:

- Generate and communicate ideas by combining, changing, and reapplying existing information
- Gather and assess information relevant to a question
- Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information

Empirical and Quantitative Competency Skills

Manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions:

- Manipulate and analyze numerical data and arrive at an informed conclusion
- Manipulate and analyze observable facts and arrive at an informed conclusion

Disclaimer

The instructor reserves the right to alter any class policies as deemed necessary by the instructor or South Plains College, and will announce any changes in class. If a student has any questions about a change in policy ask the instructor for clarification.

To successfully complete the course objectives, the students must already be prepared to factor algebraic expressions, reduce, add, subtract, multiply, divide, and simplify rational expressions, and simplify, add, subtract, multiply and divide exponential and radical expressions.

Class Cancellation

In the event of class being cancelled, the student will make up work on a revised schedule.

Attendance Policy

Attendance and effort are the most important activities for success in this course. Records of your attendance are maintained throughout the semester. Six absences are allocated to you for the semester. SPC withdrawal and drop policies will be followed if you decide not to finish the college course. See the South Plains College Catalog. If you are absent from a class, it is your responsibility to get the missed material from a friend or come to morning tutorials. If you know you are going to be absent you should inform your teacher beforehand and make arrangements to get the material.

Grading Policies

Grading Scale

90 or above	A
80 to 89	B
70 to 79	C
60 to 69	D
59 and Below	F

Assignment Weights

Chapter Tests	60%
Daily grades	25%
Final Exam	<u>15%</u>
Semester Grade	100% *

*Note Students must justify answers or show work on all problems to receive full credit.

Finality of Grades

The Final Semester Grade cannot be changed once submitted to the SPC registrar. A grade of C (70%) or above is required to advance to the next course.

Expectations of the Student for the Instructor

The student is within all rights to expect that the instructor do the following:

- Show up, as scheduled, to teach all information pertaining to the course
- Provide notice of any schedule changes
- Maximize the time allotted for this course by assessing student aptitude of covered information at the close of each lecture, when time permits
- Present the material in a manner that can generally be understood by the majority of the class
- Be accessible to those who need assistance outside of the classroom setting
- Hold to any assignment(s) given during the course of the semester unless removed
- Uphold the policies of the school as it pertains to the student's welfare in the course
- Not make any exceptions regarding the dismissal of any student from the course for reasons listed herein
- Allow each student the opportunity to discuss the material presented during the lecture period
- Provide examinations based on the information discussed in class that contain problems which use solving methods similar to those assigned from sections pertaining to the exam

Disabilities 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 through the Guidance and Counseling Centers at Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4606, or the Levelland (Student Services Building) 806-894-9611 ext. 2529. (copied from current South Plains College Faculty Handbook)

Expectations of the Instructor for the Student

The instructor is within all rights to expect that the student do the following:

- Show up on time, as scheduled, to receive and learn all information pertinent to the course and be mindful of any schedule changes.
- If you are going to initially withdraw from this course, ***all initial withdrawals must be done by April 23***. There will be no withdrawals given after this date.
- Read the syllabus! You will remain subject to the criteria outlined herein whether you read this or not, so it is in your best interest to do so! Take advantage of all resources available to you. In the collegiate setting, all students are considered adults and are expected to uphold conduct worthy of such consideration.
- Be mindful of the classroom setting and the roles therein. While student tuition is vital to the well-being of this academic institution, this does not warrant the concession of any instructor to you in a manner that compromises the integrity of the classroom setting and that of the institution itself. Bring all materials needed for the course and refrain from bringing anything that is not needed. This allows you to pay attention to the subject matter only and shows the instructor that you are prepared to learn.
- Be willing to work together with – but not do work for – fellow classmates. Networking is an essential tool both in the workforce and the in the classroom; furthermore, the greater the number of minds there are involved, the less mental labor is required for each individual.
- Keep all homework assignments organized in a folder or binder. Online assignments must be completed in your spiral. This will prove to be helpful in preparing for the exams. Write all graded work legibly and generally in pencil. **All Tests Must be Completed in Pencil.** Work homework early enough to get help if needed.
- Turn all electronic devices off that have no use in the classroom setting. If an unsanctioned device is in use during an exam, then its grade will be zero percent (0%).
- Electronic devices will be used for their initial intended function only.
- You may obtain missed information and assignments from a fellow classmate when necessary.

Academic Honesty & Equal Opportunity

You are expected to uphold the ideas of academic honesty. All work that is graded must be your own. This policy applies to all work attempted in this course. If this policy is violated the student will receive an F for the assignment and will be dropped with an **F**. For more details on what is considered cheating, see the South Plains College catalog.

South Plains College strives to accommodate the individual needs of all students in order to enhance their opportunities for success in the context of a comprehensive community college setting. It is the policy of South Plains College to offer all educational and employment opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability, or age.

Resources

Homework: MyMathLab will be used in this course. Homework is expected to be done daily. Written assignments may also be given as necessary where long-form answers are required. Any long-form answers must have all work shown in an organized fashion, and all answers must be given in complete, grammatically correct sentences that convey a logical thought process and answer the question or address the issue. Late work is not accepted. The online homework is NOT optional. Your online homework grade will be your homework grade for the semester. I will drop approximately 3 homework grades at the end of the semester. You are expected to either print out each homework assignment or copy down the problems in a spiral. You are also expected to keep all of your homework (problem, work, and boxed answers) organized and neat in your class binder/folder/spiral. you may bring a laptop or tablet to work on your homework. However, I fully encourage you to print out your homework anyway prior to coming to class every day. This is for two main reasons: First, if the internet is running slow or is down, you still need access to your homework. Second, if we finish a lecture early one day, you will be given time to work on homework.

Follow these steps for a painless registration procedure:

Before you start, you will need:

- A student's access code is found in your MyMathLab Student Access Kit that comes with the book, or you can purchase online an access code using a credit card.
- The course ID number will be given to you the first day of class. Course ID number for your course: **martin38655 (Black 2nd)** or **martin13478 (Black 3rd)** or **martin06856(Red 4th)**
- A valid email address that you check on a regular basis. I highly recommend using your SPC e-mail. You must also register with your full legal name (the same name that shows up on my roster). Do NOT use nick names, name abbreviations, etc.
- SPC Zip Code: 79336

See attached sheet for more details on getting registered into MyMathLab. You are expected to be registered and actively working on your homework assignments by the beginning of the second week of classes (Aug 20)

It is YOUR responsibility to keep up with the online homework. I will not remind you every day to do your homework assignments that have been posted. You can always assume if we have done new material, you have new homework assignments. There are no homework extensions or make-ups.