

MATH 0315 Beginning Algebra Syllabus

Instructor: Jason Groves

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Office Hours: TR: 9:15 am - 9:45 am, and 11:45 am - 1 pm; F: 10 am - 1 pm

Prerequisites: Appropriate score on TSI exam

Materials: Elementary and Intermediate Algebra 4th ed. by Sullivan, Struve, Mazzarella. Suitable writing instruments and paper for taking notes and completing assignments. Calculators are *not* permitted. Access to MyMathLab will be required for doing homework.

All documents required for this course (including this syllabus) are available on BlackBoard under the "Syllabus" heading for this class.

Expected Learning Outcomes: At the end of this course, students should be able to competently perform the following:

1. Perform arithmetic over the rational number system
2. Solve linear and quadratic equations in one variable, and solve problems using linear and quadratic models.
3. Graph, analyze, and interpret linear equations in two variables and solve systems of linear equations in two variables.
4. Properly use and understand rules of exponents applied to rational numbers and variables.
5. Perform arithmetic over polynomial expressions.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO BE FAMILIAR WITH SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE POLICIES. BELOW ARE ITEMS SPECIFIC TO THIS COURSE

Assessment: Grading will be done according to the standard 10 percent scale (i.e. 100% - 90% is an A, etc.) with assignments weighted as follows:

Homework	5%
Quizzes	5%
Tests	70%
Final Exam	20%

Class Attendance: Students are responsible for the material covered in this course. A student missing two consecutive weeks of classes or 5 individual class days without continuing notification will be dropped from the course. Please note that new state laws only allow for 6 withdrawn courses total. Further, note that this attendance policy is only for *this* course.

Homework: MyMathLab will be used in this course. While this homework is the only homework that will be graded, it is important to note that the “correct” quantity of problems may be different for every student, and therefore the assigned homework is the *minimum* amount useful for assessment. It is the student’s responsibility to identify problem areas and, where applicable, seek out more problems to complete to further his or her understanding. See “Student Resources” for more details.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be given daily (except on the day of an exam or the following day) to assess classroom performance. They will begin at the start of class and last about 15 minutes. Questions will come directly from the homework assignments. Quizzes cannot be made up, retaken, or dropped, except at the discretion of the instructor.

Exams: There will be at least three though I’m planning on four) midterm exams given during this course. Questions will be similar to assigned homework problems or quiz questions. All exams are cumulative. During exams cell phones, iPods (or other mp3 players), laptops, and other such objects should be turned *off* and put away. There is no tolerance for violations.

There will be opportunities to make up exams or retake exams throughout the term. These will *always* be during Friday’s office hours, and the specific days will be announced in advance. The exams administered will be different from the exams taken during the normal class period. Only one missed exam may be taken this way. Students wishing to retake an exam must complete an exam correction (form on BlackBoard) to be submitted on the day of the retake.

Final Exam: The final exam is comprehensive, and a required part of the course. Failure to attend the final exam results in an automatic F. As the final exam is comprehensive, your final exam grade also serves as the lowest possible grade for the course. The Final Exam will take place Wednesday, December 13, 10:15 am - 12:15 pm.

Extra Credit: Extra credit is offered to students who have shown adequate participation in the course. See document *Extra Credit Assignments* for details.

Civility in the classroom: Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Given that students will be asked to present material as a part of the course, and contribute openly in class, troublesome behavior will not be tolerated. At a minimum, this includes use of cell phones, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, arriving late, leaving early or engaging in any other form of distraction. Infractions will be dealt with proportionally to the offense, and may include dismissal from that class period (which will count as an absence on your attendance record). Tobacco products are not permitted in the classroom.

Honesty: “Scholastic dishonesty” includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student. Incidents of academic dishonesty will be promptly reported and dealt with.

Student Resources: Students have access to tutoring in M116 on the Levelland campus, or Building 2 (rooms 206 and 208) on the Reese campus. MyMathLab also has many videos and instructional resources, and you can create sample tests and quizzes in the “Study Plan” section.

Campus Concealed Carry: 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, please refer to the SPC policy at:

http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.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.

ADA Compliance: Levelland Campus 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 to federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office in the Student Services Building, 806-716-2577.

Reese Center and Lubbock Center 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 to federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office in Rooms 809 and 811, Reese Center Building 8, 806-716-4675.