

Course Syllabus – College Algebra – Spring 2012

Instructor

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Meeting Times

Class: You are taking College Algebra, MAT 140B, a 3 credit course

Section 01 meets in **MCT 262** from **12⁰⁰-12⁵⁰** on **MW** in **MCT 265** from **12⁰⁰-12⁵⁰** on **F**

Section 02 meets in **MCT 265** from **10⁰⁰-10⁵⁰** on **MWF**

Office Hours: W: 8⁵⁵-9⁵⁵, MWF: 10⁵⁵-11⁵⁵, M 1-2; or by appointment.

Purpose of Course

College Algebra provides the necessary mathematical background for Precalculus (MAT 175) or Applied Calculus (MAT 181) with a focus on applications, modeling and interpretation of graphs. In particular, we will study: algebraic expressions; linear and quadratic equations; functions and graphs; polynomial functions; rational functions; exponential and logarithmic functions; and systems of equations.

Materials

Text: *Algebra & Trigonometry (Ninth Edition)*, by Michael Sullivan, Prentice Hall.
ISBN-10: 0321716566 and ISBN-13: 9780321716569

Calculator: **You will be able to use graphing calculators on tests and quizzes.** Please note that I will perform in-class demonstrations using a TI-84. If you choose to use a calculator other than a TI-84, it will be your responsibility to learn how to use it for this course.

Webpage: Homework, announcements and grades can be found on the course website: <http://pearsonmylabandmastering.com/?cc> . The Course ID is: **galluzzo42682**.

Grading

Three in-class exams, a comprehensive final exam, quizzes and frequent homework will be used to determine your final grade for the course. The following percentages are likely to be allotted to each of the above activities:

Homework/Projects	15%
Quizzes/Class Participation	15%
In-class exams	14% (x4)
Final exam	14%
<hr/> Total	<hr/> 100%

A final letter grade will be determined using the following “+/-” grading system:

Letter Grade	Percent
A	92-100%
A-	90-92%
B+	88-90%
B	82-88%
B-	80-82%
C+	78-80%
C	70-78%
D	60-70%
F	< 60%

Very Important Dates

Homework due dates and quiz dates will be announced in class. Below are planned exam dates:

Material Covered	Test	Date
What's a function?	Big Quiz (online)	Due 2/3 (11 ⁵⁹ pm)
All about lines	Exam 1	2/13
To the nth degree	Exam 2	3/2
Rationals, piecewise and other <i>functions</i>	Exam 3	3/30
Getting to know <i>e</i> and <i>ln</i>	Exam 4	4/23
Comprehensive	Final Exam	TBD

Make-ups are not allowed unless I am notified in advance and a compelling reason for missing the test is provided. Official notification might include a written note from the dean of your college, a written note from the university health center and/or any other form of official notification from an authorized person. Further extenuating circumstances will be handled on a case-by-case basis. If you know that you will miss an exam please let me know as soon as possible. Missed quizzes will not be made up under any circumstance; rather, I will throw out your lowest quiz score (or two).

Help

There are many ways for you to get help during the semester:

- Raise your hand during class and ask a question when you don't understand something.
- Come to office hours. You don't need an appointment to come to my scheduled office hours. If you'd like to see me in my office outside of these times, just ask me (after class or by phone or email) and we'll set up a time when we can meet.

- In class we will often have time to work on problems – talk to a neighbor or a classmate and compare solution techniques.
- Drop-in tutoring in the student seminar room (MCT 252). The hours are posted outside the door to the room. There will be at least two upper-level math majors assigned specifically to our course; their hours will be posted soon.
- The Learning Center on the first floor of the library also offers tutoring services. It's usually a good idea to make an appointment in advance, especially around exam time.
- For course website help, (Pearson's MyLab and Mastering) provides a 24/7 live help desk that can be accessed at: <http://247pearsoned.custhelp.com/>. They also have a phone number that provides support to users (unsure of hours) 1-800-677-6337

If you are a student who has been identified by the Office of Social Equity as requiring special arrangements for test-taking or note-taking, you will be accommodated. Please contact me privately so that we may make these arrangements.

Expectations

1. Attend class every day, and arrive on time. Turn off your cell phone.
2. Read the section and/or notes to be covered in class prior to coming to class.
3. Do the suggested homework problems immediately after the associated material has been discussed/covered in class.
4. Don't be afraid to ask for help (ask classmates, me, math tutor, learning center tutor, etc.)
6. Be an active participant in class.

I reserve all rights to make changes (at any time) to this course, even if contrary to the syllabus.