

South Plains College

Math 1314 - College Algebra

Section 608

Fall 2025

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I. Common Course Syllabus – Math Department Policies

Department: Mathematics, Engineering, and Computer Science
Course Number: Math 1314

Discipline: Mathematics
Course Title: College Algebra

Available Formats: conventional, hybrid, internet, and ITV.

Campuses: Levelland, Plainview Center, Lubbock Downtown Center, and Dual Credit

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 TSIA1, minimum score of 950 on the TSIA2, a diagnostic score of 6 on the TSIA2, TSI-exempt status, a successful completion with a grade of 'C' or better in MATH 0320, or a successful completion of NCBM-0114.

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

This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement: 1314 - 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.

Attendance/Student Engagement Policy: Attendance and engagement are the most critical activities for success in this course. The instructor maintains records of the student's attendance and submission of assignments throughout the semester. The student is expected to attend at least eighty percent (80%) of the **total** class meetings **and** submit at least eighty percent (80%) of the **total** class assignments to have the best chance of success. If the student fails to meet these minimum requirements, the instructor may remove the student from the class with an X, upon their discretion, to help the student from harming their GPA. If the student cannot receive an X, the instructor will assign an F.

Blackboard: Blackboard (Bb) is an online course management system that SPC uses for course information. For technical support, call 806-716-2180 or email blackboard@southplainscollege.edu.

Gradescope: Gradescope is a math program that will be used to grade all of your exam work. All work will be uploaded into the Gradescope app.

Communication: All emails need to be sent through your SPC email account to my SPC email account. **Do not email me through Bb.** I will try to respond to all emails within 24 hours, but sometimes it may take longer. Emails sent to me after 9 am on Friday may not receive a response until Monday morning.

- You **must** include your name and class on every email.
- Do **not** use your personal email. (I will **only** respond to SPC email addresses.)
- Be professional in your messages. (Do **not** use all caps or text language.)

Dropping the class: If you wish to drop this class, you will need to submit a drop form online ([online drop form](#)) or you may visit the Student Services Office.

Grading Formula: The final letter grade for this course will be based on the following:

A	450 – 500 points
B	400 – 449 points
C	350 – 399 points
D	300 – 349 points
F	0 – 299 points

Exam 1	100 points
Exam 2	100 points
Exam 3	100 points
Exam 4	100 points
Final Exam	100 points

Lectures / Notes: During the two days we meet in class, you will fill in notes during the lecture. For any notes we do not get to finish during class, you will need to fill in notes from lecture videos at home. The final responsibility for learning lies with the student. The following suggestions will help you be successful.

- Take careful notes from the video.
- Frequently pause the video to take notes.
- “Rewind” the video when you don’t understand things.
- When the instructor tells you to solve a problem or write something down, do it.
- Write down questions in your notes from the lecture video when you don’t understand something.
- Bring your questions to class and ask the instructor for help and clarification.

Homework: Homework is for practice only and will not be counted for a grade. Homework will prepare you for exams, so it is very beneficial to complete all questions.

Extra Credit: There will be extra points on exams, and there are assignments in Blackboard to complete for extra points. Assignments in Bb must be completed by the deadlines and will NOT be accepted late for ANY reason. **No exceptions!**

Exams: Five exams will be given this semester with the last exam being a comprehensive final exam. There are no make-up exams. If you miss an exam, you will receive a zero. The final exam may be used to replace **one** missed exam.

Showing Work: To receive full credit on exams, you must show all the work that leads to your answers. The work must be legible, make sense and be easy to follow. **If there are any concerns on the integrity of the work on any exam, you will be required to meet with me and work problems in front of me.** When grading, I will be looking for the steps given in the Blackboard videos. **Cell phones are not to be used to get answers on any coursework at any time.**

Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Please see the list of things that constitute plagiarism and cheating in the general syllabus. If you violate anything on those lists, you will receive a zero on the assignment and could be subject to other actions outlined in the South Plains College Student Code of Conduct. Please note that these actions could include failing the course and being expelled from the college.

Resources:

- Blackboard! All course information is found in Blackboard.
- Me! Feel free to email me at jfowler@southplainscollege.edu. If you email about a specific math question, please attach a picture of the question and the work that you have tried.
- Free tutoring is available via SPC. The link is in Blackboard. If you visit with a tutor, please share with them the work given in class.

Succeeding in a Math Class:

- Be mentally present! Pay attention and ask questions in class.
- Plan ahead. Do notes and practice problems early enough before the due date that you will have time to ask questions or seek help if you need it.
- Get help as soon as you feel yourself falling behind! Don't wait!
- All notes and practice problems for the course are posted on Blackboard. If you want to get ahead, that is encouraged. Time management is crucial.
- The best way to study for a math exam is to practice working problems over and over.
- Everyone learns and studies differently. I encourage you to seek out and find what works best for you.

Tentative Course Outline -- any changes will be posted in Blackboard

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	25-Aug Syllabus and 2.1	26-Aug	27-Aug 2.2/2.3	28-Aug	29-Aug Study Skills #1
2	1-Sep Holiday	2-Sep 2.4 at home	3-Sep 3.1/3.2	4-Sep	5-Sep Study Skills #2
3	8-Sep 3.3/3.4	9-Sep	10-Sep 3.5	11-Sep	12-Sep Study Skills #3
4	15-Sep Review	16-Sep	17-Sep Exam 1	18-Sep 4.1 at home	19-Sep Study Skills #4
5	22-Sep 4.2/4.3	23-Sep	24-Sep 4.4/4.5	25-Sep	26-Sep Study Skills #5
6	29-Sep 4.6	30-Sep	1-Oct 4.7	2-Oct	3-Oct Study Skills #6
7	6-Oct 5.1/5.2	7-Oct	8-Oct Review	9-Oct	10-Oct Study Skills #7
8	13-Oct Exam 2	14-Oct	15-Oct 6.1/6.2	16-Oct Study Skills #8	17-Oct Holiday
9	20-Oct 6.3	21-Oct	22-Oct 7.1	23-Oct	24-Oct Study Skills #9
10	27-Oct 7.2	28-Oct	29-Oct 7.3	30-Oct	31-Oct Study Skills #10
11	3-Nov Review	4-Nov	5-Nov Exam 3	6-Nov 8.1 at home	7-Nov Study Skills #11
12	10-Nov 8.2	11-Nov	12-Nov 8.3	13-Nov	14-Nov Study Skills #12
13	17-Nov 8.4	18-Nov	19-Nov 9.1/9.4	20-Nov 9.2/9.3 at home	21-Nov
14	24-Nov Review	25-Nov	26-Nov Holiday	27-Nov Holiday	28-Nov Holiday
15	1-Dec Exam 4	2-Dec	3-Dec Review	4-Dec	5-Dec
14	8-Dec	9-Dec	10-Dec Final Exam 8:00 - 10:00	11-Dec	12-Dec