



Course Syllabus: College Algebra

College of Science, Mathematics & Engineering
MATH 1233 Section X20/X50
Spring 2026

Contact Information

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Office: Bolin Hall 122B

Office hours: Mon 2:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Tue 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

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Prerequisites

Math TSIA2 score of 950, Math TSIA2 Diagnostic score of 6 ; MATH 1003 with a grade of C or better ; math TSI Assessment score of 350 ; math THEA score of 270 ; math Accuplacer score of 90 ; or satisfactory score on placement exam.

Course Description

In-depth study of polynomials, rational, radical, exponential and logarithmic functions, including applications for these functions and methods for solving related equations and inequalities. Additional topics, such as systems of linear equations, may be included. (This course is designed for students planning to take additional mathematics.)

Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

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

Assessment of Core Objectives

Samples of students' work from embedded final exam questions will be used in the assessment of critical thinking, communications skills and empirical and quantitative skills.

Course Materials – Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

This course will use D2L to distribute information. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program and to regularly check posted information. You can log into D2L through the MSU Homepage. On D2L, I will post any announcements and reminders that I feel will be helpful as we go through the semester. I will also post grades within D2L.

Textbook & Online Homework System

We will be using the mathematics platform ALEKS throughout the semester. A link to ALEKS is accessible through D2L, or you can log onto ALEKS directly. Please refer to the *ALEKS Environment* course documents in D2L for an overview of the ALEKS system. Within the online environment, you will also have access to the textbook for this course: College Algebra, 3rd Ed. (McGraw-Hill) by Miller and Gerken.

Courseware Access

Required digital materials (textbook and MyLab Access) for this course are part of the Courseware Access and Affordability Program at MSU Texas. Your course materials will be available on the first day of class through D2L. The charge for this material (\$87.75 net) has been posted to your student account at the Business Office. If you wish to opt out of this program, instructions will be sent to your my.msutexas.edu email address on the second day of class. The deadline to opt out is TBA.

Calculators

You are permitted to use a calculator on all assessments in this class, though you are not required to have one. It is recommended that you have either a scientific or a graphing calculator. It should be able to take square roots, compute exponential and logarithmic functions, and perform other similar operations. The specific model of calculator is not important, but it should be something you are comfortable using. The ALEKS environment provides a calculator on select problems, which you may use.

Course Modality and Expectations – Course Modality

This course is entirely asynchronous and online. This means that you will be expected to set your own appropriate schedule to accomplish your goals in this course. Your progress for much of this course will be decided through Mastery-Based Assessment. **Mastery-Based Assessment** gives you (the student) the

opportunity to learn from mistakes without punishment, gives you autonomy in your success in this course. Much of this will be unproctored and formative.

However, because it is vital to the integrity of this course, there will be one heavily weighted final assessment that is proctored to verify your progress was your own, without the use of outside sources or other aiding materials. Good performance on this assessment is essential to receiving a high grade in this course. It is helpful to think of the final assessment as something akin to an ACT or SAT, where the test grade is highly important, but the preparation leading up to the final assessment will undoubtedly improve your test grade.

Expectations

- Log into ALEKS at least four days per week to work on course content
- Log into D2L at least two days per week to view updates and informan
- Ask specific, thoughtful questions (by email, during office hours, through D2L or ALEKS)
- Put forth your best effort every day!!

Coursework and Grading – Grading

Your course grade will be computed based on the following categories:

Table 1: Percentage allocated to each assignment

Category	Percentage
4 Module grades (10% each)	40%
Weekly topic goals (Best 10 of 12)	10%
Graded Knowledge Check 1	10%
Graded Knowledge Check 2	10%
Final Knowledge Check	30%
Total	100%

Your final letter grade will be based on the percentage obtained AND your grade on the Final Knowledge Check.

Table 2: Total

Grade	Overall Percentage		Final Knowledge Check Score
A	At least 90%	*AND	At least 80%
B	80–90%	*AND	At least 70%
C	70–80%	*AND	At least 60%
D	60–70%	*AND	At least 50%
F	Less than 60%		

The four module grades will be determined at the time of the Final Knowledge Check. Final grades will not be rounded up and no extra credit will be given.

Coursework

Table 1: List of Topics

Module	Topics
Module R	Background (116 topics)
Module 1	Equations and Inequalities (121 topics)
Module 2	Functions and Relations(120 topics)
Module 3	Polynomial and Rational Functions (50 topics)
Module 4	Exponential and Logarithmic Functions (50 topics)

Table 2: Exam Schedule

Knowledge Check	Earliest Start Time	Latest End Time
Graded Knowledge Check 1	Mon Feb 23, 12:01 AM	Thurs Feb 29, 11:59 PM
Graded Knowledge Check 2	Mon April 6, 12:01 AM	Thurs April 9, 11:59 PM
(Proctored) Final Knowledge Check	Mon May 11, 12:01 AM	Thurs May 14, 11:59 PM

***(Proctored) Final Knowledge Check**

Your final exam in this course can be administered through one of the following options:

1. In person on the MSU Main Campus
2. Through the online proctoring platform ProctorU
3. Through another approved military or university testing center

Taking the final assessment on the MSU Campus is free, however there may be a fee for the other services that you will need to pay directly to ProctorU or third-party testing center. You do not need to schedule your exam with ProctorU until July, but you can go to the [MSU ProctorU Portal](#) soon to make sure you have the proper technology requirements if this is an option that you are interested in.

Course Policies – Attendance

Since this is an online course, there are no class meetings to attend. However, ALEKS will track the time you spend working on this course. You should expect to spend somewhere between 6 and 9 hours online each week; but individual students may find that they need different amounts of time.

Success in this course normally requires work done at a steady pace with at least some work every day or two. Ignoring the course for an uninterrupted week or more will result in time spent relearning material you have forgotten.

Academic Misconduct

Any incident in which a student submits work for grading that does not reflect their own effort is considered academic dishonesty. This includes using sources (by paraphrase or direct quotation) without proper attribution; collaborating on work where collaboration is not authorized; use of sources on an assignment or test where those sources are not authorized; and turning in work completed by another person. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported as specified in your student handbook.

For most of this course, students may use any resources they wish to. For Graded Knowledge Checks, the only allowed resources are pencil, paper, and calculator.

Communicating with Me

Some portions of this syllabus may alter during the semester. I will announce changes by email through the D2L email system. You are responsible for knowing everything I email to your D2L email address. The best way to reach me is by email (jihyun.lee@msutexas.edu). I will generally respond to email within two working days. Any communication not in writing or by email should be considered unofficial.

If you would like to talk in person or over Zoom, please send an email to jihyun.lee@msutexas.edu to set up an appointment. I am happy to answer questions about homework problems, quizzes and tests, study practices, grades, and other topics.

Changes to Syllabus

Some portions of this syllabus may alter during the semester. I will announce changes by email through the D2L email system. You are responsible for knowing everything I email to your D2L email address.

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUREady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled "Run. Hide. Fight." which may be electronically accessed via the University police department's webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

Weather-Related Class Cancellations

In the event of weather-related campus closures, this fully online course may continue as scheduled. Any changes to course activities, deadlines, or expectations will be communicated via D2L announcements.