

Instructor: Mark Farris **e-mail:** mark.farris@msutexas.edu **Phone:** 940-642-3312 **Office:** BO118J

Office Hours: Mon, 9:30-11:30, 1:30-3:30, Tues 2:00-3:00, Wed 8:30-11:30, Thurs 2:00-3:00, Fri 9:30-11:30; or by appt.

Textbook: College Algebra, 2nd Ed. (McGraw-Hill) by Miller and Gerken. This book and a significant amount of supplementary material are available through www.ALEKS.com. After you have purchased access to the online course website, you can purchase a loose-leaf copy of the textbook for a small fee.

Objectives: Your primary objective will be to learn correct use of mathematical terminology and notation. You will also be learning problem solving skills from the point of view of a mathematician. A student who completes this course with a grade of C or better may take MATH1433-Plane Trigonometry.

Prerequisite: No College level coursework is required before beginning this course. However, students must meet the requirements of the [Texas Success Initiative](#).

Grading: Your grade will be based on 4 Chapter grades, 2 Midterm Graded Knowledge Checks, and a Proctored Final Knowledge Check. These items will be weighted like this:

4 Chapter grades @ 10% each	40%
1 st Graded Knowledge Check	10%
2 nd Graded Knowledge Check	20%
Proctored Final Knowledge Check	30%

Grades will be computed on the usual basis, 90% for an A, 80% for a B, etc. However, poor performance on the Final Knowledge Check could lower your course grade. You must score at least 80% on the final to receive a grade of A, 70% for a B, 60% for a C, and 50% for a D.

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. **Only** the strongest students can get away with spending less than 6 hours per week. Weaker student may need 10 or more hours per week. Success in this course normally requires work done a steady pace and at least some work every day or two. Ignoring the course for an uninterrupted week or more will result in you having to spend time relearning material you have forgotten.

Exam Schedule: The 2 Graded Knowledge Checks and the Proctored Final Knowledge Check will be taken online. Each of these Knowledge Checks should take about one hour. You must complete each Knowledge Check in not more than 2 hours. The exact time that you take each exam must fit into a time window given in the following table.

<i>Knowledge Check</i>	<i>Earliest Start Time</i>	<i>Latest End Time</i>
Graded Knowledge Check 1	Feb 18, 2019 12:01AM	Feb 21, 2019 11:59PM
Graded Knowledge Check 2	Apr 8, 2019 12:01AM	Apr 11, 2019 11:59PM
Proctored Final Knowledge Check	May 6, 2019 12:01AM	May 9, 2019 11:59PM

Each student is responsible for arranging to have a Proctor administer the Final Knowledge Check. More details can be found at the D2L course website.

Expectations: I expect you to

- Log onto ALEKS at least 3 days per week and Log onto D2L at least twice each week
- use online time wisely
- ask specific, thoughtful questions (message through ALEKS or email mark.farris@msutexas.edu)
- put forth your best effort every day
- make at least a "C" in this class

Standard Syllabus Information: Students should refer to the current MSU Student Handbook for university policies on academic dishonesty, class attendance, student rights and activities.

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's webpage [Campus Carry Rules/Policies](#).