

Math 1233-201: College Algebra

Spring 2020

Instructor: Dr. Sarah Cobb

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Office hours:

Monday: 12:00—1:00 PM

Tuesday: 3:00—4:00 PM

Wednesday: 10:00—11:00 AM

Thursday: 1:30—2:30 PM

Friday: 2:00—3:00 PM

Other times by appointment (please email to schedule an appointment)

Schedule

Lecture: MWF, 8:00—8:50 AM, Bolin 311

Unit Exams: February 19, March 27, May 1 during class time

Final Exam: Monday, December 11, 1:00—3:00 PM

Catalog information

Description: Equations, inequalities, rational expressions, exponents, logarithms, radicals, functions, graphs, and systems of equations. This course is designed for students planning to take additional mathematics.

Prerequisites: 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.

Textbook

College Algebra with Modeling and Visualization, Sixth Edition. Gary K. Rockswold. Pearson.

You will also need access to the MyLab Math online content. Instructions for access will be provided on the first day of class as well as available on the course D2L page. An electronic copy of the book is included in the purchase of the MyLab system. You do not need a hard copy unless you want one.

Calculators

A scientific calculator is strongly recommended for this class. A graphing calculator is optional and will not be allowed on certain quizzes and tests.

Grading

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

Category	Percentage
Participation	12%
Quizzes	7%
Homework	10%
Unit Exams	51%
Final Exam	20%

Your final letter grade will be based on the percentage obtained:

Grade	Percentage
A	At least 90%
B	80—90%
C	70—80%
D	60—70%
F	Less than 60%

Final grades will not be rounded up and no extra credit will be given.

Course Structure

This course will follow a “flipped classroom” model this semester. Basic definitions and examples will be delivered by videos watched outside of class and time in class will be spent primarily on group work and exercises that deepen understanding.

Educational research has consistently show that instructional approaches that promote active student engagement during class produce better learning outcomes. In order to be successful in this class, it is vital that you engage with the material inside and outside of class. The grading structure has been designed to promote that engagement.

Participation

You are expected to attend class every day; arrive on time; prepare before class by watching videos, completing guided notes, and taking short quizzes; treat your classmates with respect and courtesy; and engage actively with the material during class time. These factors contribute to your participation grade.

Quizzes

In this course, you will be assigned short videos to watch between classes. After you watch the videos, there will be a short quiz available through the MyLab link in D2L. The quiz will assess your understanding of the videos. Quizzes will be very short and are designed to ensure you are prepared for class. Quizzes must be completed by 4:00 AM on the due date.

Homework

Homework will be assigned through the MyLab system and accessed through D2L. Generally, assignments will be posted on Wednesday and due at 4:00 AM the following Wednesday. Most weeks, three to four short assignments will be due on the same day. You will be allowed multiple attempts on most homework problems, so you should be able to achieve a very high homework score.

You will be able to access the homework for a two-week trial period at the beginning of the semester. By the end of that time, you will need to purchase access to MyLab for the semester.

Tests

The three unit exams for this class will be on February 19, March 27, May 1 during class time. You are expected to take these exams in class as scheduled.

If you must miss an exam, please let me know at least one week ahead of the test date and arrange to take the test early. In the case of unexpected and unavoidable absences (such as hospitalization), you must let me know on the day of the test. In this case the exam must be made up within 48 hours and will be subject to a 10% grade penalty. In other circumstances, you will receive a zero on the exam.

The final exam is Monday, December 11, 1:00—3:00 PM and cannot be taken early or late for anything but the most dire emergencies.

Attendance

You are expected to attend every class, if at all possible. This includes arriving on time, staying to the end, participating in class, and behaving respectfully. If you must miss class, please consult a classmate to find out what you missed. Students who miss more than six classes or portions of classes may be dropped from the course with a grade of F.

Classroom Behavior

Respectful behavior in the classroom is required. Any student who is disruptive will be asked to leave class. As much as possible, please avoid leaving or entering the room during class. Make sure all electronic devices are silenced.

Computers

I do not allow the use of computers in the classroom. This includes laptops, cell phones, tablets, and other similar devices. (Calculators are allowed.) Students using such devices will lose participation credit and may be asked to leave class. If a cell phone, smart watch, or similar device is visible or audible during an exam, you will receive a zero on that exam.

If this policy presents a serious problem, please let me know; exceptions may be made in special circumstances.

Academic Misconduct

Cheating on any work in this course will result in no credit for that work. Egregious or repeated incidents may result in more serious consequences, including a failing grade in the course or dismissal from your academic program. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported as specified in your student handbook.

Changes

Some portions of this syllabus may alter during the semester. When possible, I will announce changes in class as well as sending an email through the D2L email system. You are responsible for knowing everything I announce in class as well as everything I email to your address as listed in D2L. If you miss class, make sure you talk to someone who was there.

Office Hours

Office hours are time that I have set aside to answer questions about the course or course material. I am happy to answer questions about homework problems, quizzes and tests, study practices, grades, and other topics. Please feel free to drop by with or without an appointment at any of the scheduled times listed on the first page. If it is impossible for you to attend scheduled office hours, email me to set up an appointment at another time.

Communicating with Me

The best way to reach me is by email (my email address is on page 1). I will generally respond to email within 24 to 48 hours. I will be in my office during office hours each week and often at other times; feel free to stop by. Any communication not in writing or by email should be considered unofficial.

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 Clark Student Center, Room 168, (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 contact the Disability Support Services office.