

Math 1233-209/L20: College Algebra

Spring 2019

Instructor: Dr. Sarah Cobb
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Office hours:

Monday: 11 AM—12 PM, 3—4 PM
Tuesday: 9—9:30 AM. 11 AM—12 PM
Wednesday: 10 AM – 12 PM
Thursday: 9—9:30 AM. 11 AM—12 PM
Friday: 11 AM—12 PM, 2—3 PM
Other times by appointment

Schedule

Lecture: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9:00—9:50 AM, Bolin 311
Unit Exams: February 15, March 29, and April 26, during class
Final Exam: Tuesday, May 7, 10:30 AM—12:30 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 need access to the MyLab Math online content. Instructions for access will be provided during the first week of class as well as available on the course D2L page. You may purchase an access code through the bookstore or directly from the publisher online. A two-week free trial is available if you cannot afford to purchase the access code immediately.

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
Online Homework	10%
Quizzes and activities	10%
Unit Exams	45%
Final Exam study guide	10%
Final Exam	25%

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%

Homework

Weekly homework will be assigned using the MyLab system. Problems may be worked as many times as you like, so a perfect homework score should be attainable. Homework can be completed after the due date and before the unit exam for half credit. After the unit exam, your homework score will be final.

The purpose of the homework is to help you understand the material for the class. I encourage you to take the homework seriously and put in as much effort as you need to in order to thoroughly understand the mathematics. MyMathLab includes many resources to help you, including videos, tutorials, and examples. It also includes online access to the textbook.

Instructions for setting up MyMathLab will be handed out the first week of class and can be downloaded from the course D2L page.

Quizzes

Quizzes will be given in class approximately once per week. Quizzes may not be taken early or late. Quizzes will generally be announced ahead of time, but there may be exceptions.

Occasional in-class or homework activities may also be given; these will count as quiz grades.

Your two lowest quiz scores for the semester will be dropped from your final grade calculation. This is intended to account for illness or other unavoidable absence; no other accommodations will be made except in the case of university-excused absences.

Tests

The unit exams for this class are on February 15, March 29, and April 26. You are expected to take the 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 Tuesday, May 7, 10:30 AM—12:30 PM and cannot be taken early or late for anything but the most dire emergencies.

Final Exam Study Guide

During the last week of the semester, the class will collaboratively prepare and present a study guide for the final exam. You may work alone or with a partner; you will be assigned a portion of the course material to present.

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 talking with classmates and 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 may be asked to leave class. If a cell phone, smart watch, or similar device is visible or audible during an exam, you may 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.

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

This course will have an active D2L page. You should look there for grades on quizzes and exams, review materials, and announcements. You will access the online homework through the course D2L page.