



Course Syllabus: College Algebra

McCoy College of Science, Mathematics & Engineering
Math 1233.1R1 and Math 0233.1R1
FALL 2026

Contact Information

Instructor: Patrick Mitchell

Office: Bolin 122G

Office hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9-11am Tuesday and Thursday 10-11am

Office phone: (940) 397-4190

E-mail: patrick.mitchell@msutexas.edu

Course Description

Equations, inequalities, polynomials, rational expressions, exponents, logarithms, radicals, functions, graphs. (This course is designed for students planning to take additional mathematics.)

Class Meeting Days, Times, Location

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 8:00 am – 8:50 am, in BO 144

and

Tuesday and Thursday, 8:00 am – 9:20 am in BO 144

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Required: MyLab Math for the text College Algebra with Intermediate Algebra, first edition, by Beecher, Penna, Johnson and Bittinger. Required digital materials for this course are part of the Courseware Access and Affordability Program at MSU Texas. Students are charged for required course materials on their student account with the Business Office. Any students who wish to opt-out of the Program and purchase the required course materials on their own must do so prior to the opt-out date.

Additional Information: There is an eBook within MyMathLab, so purchasing a print copy is optional.

Calculator Requirement: You must have a scientific calculator. Bring your calculator with you to class daily. No cell phones may be used on tests or quizzes.

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

When you need help with this course, where can you go?

1. To your professor's office Bolin 122 G.
 - You can attend scheduled office hours or request another time for help.
 - You should have with you both your notes and all of the related work that you have done over the topics you are seeking help with.
2. The *Tutoring and Academic Support Program (TASP)*, located in Moffett Library, offers additional tutoring in math as well as other courses. You can find out more about their services by visiting their office or searching *TASP* on the MSU website. They offer tutoring Monday through Thursday 11:00am-6:00pm and Sunday 2:00pm-9:00pm.

Moffett Library

Moffett Library provides resources and services to support student's studies and assignments, including books, peer-reviewed journals, databases, and multimedia materials accessible both on campus and remotely. The library offers media equipment checkout, reservable study rooms, and research assistance from librarians to help students effectively find, evaluate, and use information. Get started on this [Moffett Library webpage](#) to explore these resources and learn how to best utilize the library.

Grading

Course Grade – Your grade will be based on Homework (done in MyLab Math), Quizzes (in class or within MyLab Math or within D2L), and Exams. Grades for Math 1233 (College Algebra) will be calculated using the following weights. The standard 90-80-70-60 grading scale will be used to assign course grades.

	Math 1233
Homework Average	8%
Quizzes	10%
Exam 1	10%
Exam 2	10%
Exam 3	14%
Exam 4	14%
Exam 5	14%
Final Exam (1233)	20%

At the end of the semester, the course grade for Math 0233 (Developmental Support) will be computed using the following formula.

Math 0233 grade = $\max(\text{grade after exam 2}, \text{Math 1233 grade} + 10\% \text{ of homework average})$.

****Note that there is no extra credit given in these courses.**

Taking Notes During Class

You are expected to take notes during every class/lecture, or if lecture is given through videos, then while watching the video lectures. These notes should be clear and legible so that you can refer to them while completing your homework or studying for the course. I reserve the right to ask students to upload a copy of their class notes to D2L at any time, which may be graded for completion and correctness. A notebook or binder should be used to keep your notes organized.

Homework

Homework will be assigned daily over the material that is covered in class.

Homework is accessed through D2L on the D2L homepage for Math 1233 by clicking on Content then Pearson Course Materials then Open MyLab and Mastering. Due dates will be assigned and will be included with each assignment within MyLab Math.

****Any student who fails to complete 8 or more homework assignments may be dropped from both Math 0233 and Math 1233 with grades of F.**

Late Homework

There are due dates given within MyLab Math for each assignment. Each due date time is 11:59 pm on the day the homework assignment is due. Students may work on an assignment past the due date for two additional days, but there will be a 25% penalty on any problem completed during this late period. Problems within a homework assignment that are completed before the time the assignment is due are awarded full credit. Once an assignment has passed its final due date, you may access it through the MyLab Math Gradebook (link in D2L) and work on problems within the assignment without changing your grade on the assignment.

Quizzes

Quizzes will be given frequently. Some quizzes may be given outside of class within D2L or MyMathLab, and others will be given on paper during class. The quizzes will be short, and there will be a time limit on each quiz. Make-up quizzes will not be given.

I will drop the lowest three quiz scores at the end of the semester. However, I will not drop any zeros given for academic dishonesty.

Exams

The tentative exam dates are as follows:

Exam 1: Thursday, September 10, 2026
Exam 2: Thursday, October 1, 2026
Exam 3: Thursday, October 15, 2026
Exam 4: Thursday, November 5, 2026
Exam 5: Tuesday, December 1, 2026
Final Exam: Wednesday, December 9, 2026, 1:00-3:00pm

Make Up Exams

Make-up exams are not generally given; however, such exams may be given for an absence that is a result of a documented medical or personal emergency. If an exam is going to be missed due to an approved university activity, the student should request to take the exam early. For missed exams, timely notification (for emergencies, on or before the scheduled day of the exam, and for approved university activities, a week prior to the scheduled day of the exam) is necessary to receive consideration to make up the exam or take the exam early. Once graded exams have been returned to the class, which usually occurs during the class meeting following the day of the exam, it will no longer be possible to make up a missed exam. No student will be allowed to make up more than one exam during the semester.

Final Exam

The final exam is scheduled for Wednesday, December 9, 2026 from 1:00 to 3:00. The final exam is worth 20% of your final grade

Make Up Work/Tests

State whether or not you will allow students to make up missed assignments and tests, and any conditions you stipulate.

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance

Midwestern State University's Attendance Policy, which is contained in the MSU Student Handbook, states that students are expected to attend all meetings of the classes in which they are enrolled. Among other things, the policy covers the university's position on authorized absences, including who students should contact to inform faculty in cases of personal emergency or illness requiring hospitalization or prolonged absence. You may wish to review MSU's Class Attendance Policy within the Student Handbook.

Students should make every effort to arrive to class on time and remain for the entire class period. Arriving late and leaving early is a disruption to the instructors and to fellow students. Emergencies should not be regular occurrences. If you have a medical condition that warrants needing to leave class on a regular basis, please talk to the instructor and provide her with a doctor's note indicating such.

What you need to know about being absent from this class:

1. Any student caught doing work for another class, or being physically present but not mentally present and engaged in class, will be asked to leave and will be counted absent.
2. A student who arrives more than ten minutes late may be considered absent.
3. **A student who accumulates eight absences (combined total from both courses) may be instructor dropped from both Math 0233 and Math 1233 with grades of F.** In such cases, an email will be sent to the student using the student's email within D2L, notifying the student.

Online Computer Requirements

Taking a class with required online homework requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. ****Assignments are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments.*** Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. ****Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!*** There are many places to access your class! Our online homework can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

Student Initiated Drop from Math 0233 and Math 1233

Students who are enrolled in Math 0233 because they are not TSI-complete in mathematics are not allowed to drop either course until October 26, 2026. Further, the last day to drop any course on campus is Monday, November 23, 2026, by 4 pm.

October 26 to November 23, you have two options for dropping, as described below.

- (1) You may drop both Math 0233 and Math 1233 with a W.
- (2) You may choose to drop MATH 1233 but not drop MATH 0233. Your Math 0233 grade will be given as your **current course average in MATH 1233 as of Test 2**. You now have 2 options:
 - a. At the end of the semester, I will record your MATH 0233 grade as your average in MATH 1233 as of test 2. You will not be required to attend any further classes. The next semester, you will repeat both co-requisite courses if your grade in MATH 0233 is a D or F.
 - b. October 23 to November 9 only, you can request an ALEKS access code paid for by MCOSME to work through self-paced preparatory material for an algebra based college level course. During the week of final exams, you will take a proctored in-person exam over developmental material or retest on the TSIA2 – math portion. If you are successful on the proctored assessment or TSIA2 retest, I will record a C for MATH 0233, and you will now be TSI complete. If you are not successful on the proctored assessment or TSIA2 retest, I will record your MATH 0233 grade as your average in MATH 1233 as of test 2, and you will have a \$30 charge added to your MSU account to repay MCOSME for the ALEKS access.

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

All work that you do that contributes to your course grade must be your own work. Any evidence that you submitted work that is not your own is considered an act of academic dishonesty. An act of academic dishonesty will be reported to the university and will result in one of the following academic sanctions:

- Receiving a 0 on the homework, quiz, or exam.
- Receiving a 0 for the entire quiz grade for the semester (10%) or the entire homework score for the semester (8%).
- Receiving an F in MATH 0233 and/or MATH 1233.
- Receiving an F in MATH 0233 and/or MATH 1233 that will remain permanently on your transcript and within your MSU GPA.

On homework, you may get assistance from others, but you are responsible for understanding what you submit to be graded, and further, no two students are ever to turn in work that appears to be identical. Teachers can detect when a student is copying homework from someone else in the class. Never let someone borrow your work. If you want to help someone understand how to work a problem, talk to them and give them advice or pointers, but never give them your completed work. In addition, copying solutions from online resources is considered cheating.

The [Grade Appeal Checklist](#) provides the timeline for appealing from the instructor to the next in line (dean of the college). The [Academic Honesty Checklist](#) describes the timeline for appealing from the instructor to the next in line (chair of department) and who must be notified of academic honesty infractions.

How to become TSI complete Algebra Based

Students who complete Math 0233 or Math 1233 with a C or better will be TSI-complete Algebra-based at end of the fall semester. Credits earned for Math 0233 do not count as hours towards graduation. Math 1233, College Algebra, is a college-level core math course. Passing Math 1233 will satisfy the university's core math requirement. Earning a C or better is required to enroll in any math course in which College Algebra is a prerequisite.

Note: A student that does not attain TSI-complete status in mathematics will be required to enroll in a core math course along with its developmental support course until such status is attained.

Recording Classes

****Recording classes is generally prohibited without the professor's explicit permission.*** Such recordings, when permitted, are for personal use only and may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published without the professor's prior consent. Some faculty may not permit recordings of their classes. When it is feasible and appropriate, students may record classes to accommodate disabilities under the Americans With Disabilities Act, with prior approval of Disability Support Services. Such recordings may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published.

Taking Notes During Class

You are expected to take notes during every class/lecture, or if lecture is given through videos, then while watching the video lectures. These notes should be clear and legible so that you can refer to them while completing your homework or studying for the course. I reserve the right to ask students to upload a copy of their class notes to D2L at any time, which may be graded for completion and correctness. A notebook or binder should be used to keep your notes organized.

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](#).

Emergency Aid Resources for Basic Needs

Unexpected life circumstances can affect anyone. If you are experiencing challenges meeting basic needs—such as housing, utilities, food, transportation, healthcare, technology, textbooks or other life necessities, resources may be available to help. Visit the [Student Emergency Support and Resources webpage](#) to learn more, and explore emergency support opportunities through MSU and how to access them. For additional information, please contact the Office of Student Affairs: Clark Student Center #108, (940) 397-7500, student.affairs@mstuexas.edu.

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

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

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

Midwestern State University seeks to provide a safe, healthy, pleasant environment for its faculty, staff, and students. To this end, the use of tobacco products, including smoke and smokeless tobacco, and the advertising, sale, free distribution, and discarding of tobacco products shall be prohibited in all indoor and outdoor facilities and in all university vehicles. The policy extends to faculty, staff, students, vendors, guests, and visitors.

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."](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

***Notice:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.