



Course Syllabus: College Algebra
College of Science, Mathematics, and Engineering
Math 1233 Section 101
Fall 2026 August 24-December 10 2026

Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Guy Bernard
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Course Description

The main objective of this course is to convey a good understanding of the elementary functions of mathematics (and their related equations and inequalities) in preparation for further study of mathematics such as Trigonometry and Calculus. These functions comprise Linear, Quadratic, Polynomial, Rational, Exponential, and Logarithmic functions. The graphs of these functions shall be extensively studied to underscore their geometric nature. Numerous real world applications of these topics shall be presented.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

College Algebra by Gary K. Rockswold, 6th ed.
Any scientific or graphing calculator.

Lectures

MWF 9:00am-9:50am in Bolin 309

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

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Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of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](#). The sanction for academic dishonesty on tests, or on the final exam will be assignment of the grade of ZERO on the given test where the dishonesty occurred. This may lead to the failing of the class should the students' course grade fall below the required passing grade.

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](#) to explore these resources and learn how to best utilize the library.

Grading

The course grade for each student will be the better of the following two evaluations:

Evaluation 1	Percentage
Quizzes	20%
Test No.1	15%
Test No.2	15%
Test No.3	15%
Final Exam	35%

Evaluation 2	Percentage
Quizzes	20%
Best Test (of three)	15%
2 nd Best Test	15%
Worst Test	0%
Final Exam	50%

Letter Grade	Course Grade
A	85% and above
B	75% to 84%
C	65% to 74%
D	55% to 64%
F	Less than 55%

Homework

Homework will be given (but not collected) to prepare for quizzes.

Quizzes

Quizzes (30 in all) will be given about twice a week. Each quiz will cover only one section of the textbook.

Test Dates

Test No.1: Friday October 2, 2026 (subject to change)

Test No.2: Monday November 2, 2026 (subject to change)

Test No.3: Wednesday December 2, 2026 (subject to change)

Final Exam

The Final exam will be comprehensive and compulsory.

Final Exam: Wednesday December 9, 2026 1:00pm-3:00pm

Extra Credit

No extra credit assignments will be given.

Make-up Tests

Make-up tests will be granted only in exceptional situations and only when the student has made the request (for a make-up test) several days before the date of the class -scheduled test.

Important Dates

- Last day for term schedule changes: August 27, 2026
- Deadline to file for graduation: September 21, 2026
- Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" November 23, 2026 at 4:00pm
- Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

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

Attendance is compulsory in this class. After five absences, students may be withdrawn from the course with the grade of WF (before 11/23/2026), or with the grade of F (after 11/23/2026).

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.

Instructor Class Policies

Students cannot use cell phones, I-Pads, or notebooks during tests. Calculators are allowed during all tests. Students cannot listen to music during lectures or tests.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

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@msutexas.edu

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.”](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Students wishing to appeal their final course grade should refer to the following link describing the appeal process. [Grade Appeal Checklist](#)
Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

Course Outline:

The following chapters from the textbook will be covered:

Chapter 1	Introduction to Functions	(except Sec 1.1)
Chapter 2	Linear Functions and Equations	All sections
Chapter 3	Quadratic Functions and Equations	All sections
Chapter 4	More Nonlinear Functions and Equations	All sections
Chapter 5	Exponential and Logarithmic Functions	All sections

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