

Math 1233-X10: College Algebra

Fall 2026

General Course Information

Instructor Information

Instructor: Office: BO 122P
Office hours: Monday 1:30-3:20 PM,
Wednesday 3:30-4:20 PM,
Thursday 10:00 AM – 11:50 AM
Or by appointment

Office phone: 940-397-4441

E-mail: sarah.cobb@msutexas.edu

Class Meetings

This is an asynchronous online class. There are no required class meetings. Course information will be available through the course D2L page and sent through university email.

Course Description

Equations, inequalities, rational expressions, exponents, logarithms, radicals, functions, graphs, and systems of equations. A graphing calculator is recommended but is not required.

Prerequisites

Math TSIA2 score of 950, Math TSIA2 Diagnostic score of 6; 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 & Instructional Materials

We will be using the mathematics platform ALEKS throughout the semester. A link to ALEKS is accessible through the course D2L page. Please refer to the ALEKS Environment course documents in D2L for an overview of the ALEKS system. Within the online environment, you will also have access to the textbook for this course: College Algebra, 2nd Ed. (McGraw-Hill) by Miller and Gerken.

Follett Access

Required digital materials (textbook and ALEKS Access) for this course are part of the Follett Instant Access Program. Your course materials will be available on the first day of class through D2L. The charges for this material (\$97.45 plus \$8.04 tax) have been posted to your student account at the Business Office. If you wish to opt out of this program, instructions will be sent to your my.msutexas.edu email address. If you choose to opt out, you will need to purchase access through the publisher or another source.

Calculator

You are permitted to use a scientific or graphing calculator on all work for this course. ALEKS provides an embedded calculator on problems that require one, but you may wish to have a separate calculator to use on other questions. Your calculator should be able to take square roots, compute exponential and logarithmic functions, and perform other similar operations.

Changes

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor. Changes will be posted on D2L, and/or sent to your university email address. Be sure that you are receiving messages through these channels.

Online Computer Requirements

Taking an online class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. Computer labs are located in several areas on campus for your use, including the Clark Student Center and Moffett Library. Make sure that you plan ahead to ensure that due dates are met.

Course Modality and Expectations

Modality

This course is entirely asynchronous and online. This means that you will be expected to set your own appropriate schedule to accomplish your goals in this course. Your progress for much of this course will be decided through Mastery-Based Assessment. Mastery-Based Assessment gives you (the student) the opportunity to learn from mistakes without punishment, gives you autonomy in your success in this course. Much of this will be unproctored and formative.

However, because it is vital to the integrity of this course, there will be one heavily weighted final assessment that is proctored to verify your progress was your own, without the use of outside sources or other aiding materials. Good performance on this assessment is essential to receiving a high grade in this course. It is helpful to think of the final assessment as something akin to an ACT or SAT, where the test grade is highly important, but the preparation leading up to the final assessment will undoubtedly improve your test grade.

Expectations

In order to succeed in this class, you should plan to do the following:

- Log in to ALEKS at least three days per week to work on course content.
- Log in to D2L at least two days per week to view updates and information.
- Ask specific, thoughtful questions (by email, during office hours, or through D2L).
- Put forth your best effort every day.

Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policies

Grading

Your grade will be determined by your progress in the ALEKS platform, as well as your performance on scheduled knowledge checks.

Because the Final Graded Knowledge Check is the only proctored assessment for the semester, it represents a large part of the final grade. A student's final letter grade for the semester will not be more than one letter grade higher than their score on the final exam.

Assignments will be weighted as shown:

Assignments	Weight
Weekly Topic Goals	22%
Pie Progress Goals	27%
First Graded Knowledge Check	10%
Second Graded Knowledge Check	10%
Final Graded Knowledge Check	30%
Other Items	1%

To obtain a specific letter grade in the course, you must obtain a specific percentage in the course and a specific score on the final exam.

Grade	Requirements
A	At least 90% and at least 340 topics on final
B	At least 80% and at least 298 topics on final
C	At least 70% and at least 255 topics on final
D	At least 60% and at least 213 topics on final
F	Less than 60% or less than 213 topics on final

Graded Knowledge Checks

Graded Knowledge Checks will be given in ALEKS in week 5, week 10, and week 15 of the semester. The Final Graded Knowledge Check must be either taken in person or proctored through the ProctorU platform at a cost of around \$35 to the student.

Weekly Topic Goals

Weekly topic goals of 20 topics will be assigned most weeks of the semester and will be due at 11:59 PM on Sunday nights.

Pie Progress Goals

Three progress goals are set during the semester in the same weeks as graded knowledge checks. Partial credit will be given for progress towards these goals.

Resources

Communicating with Me

The best way to reach me is by email (sarah.cobb@msutexas.edu). I will generally respond to email within two working days. Any communication not in writing or by email should be considered unofficial.

If you would like to talk in person or over Zoom, please send an email to sarah.cobb@msutexas.edu or call (940)-397-4253 to set up an appointment. I am happy to answer questions about homework problems, quizzes and tests, study practices, grades, and other topics.

Drop-in office hours

The office hours listed on the front of this syllabus are provided for the purpose of meeting with students to discuss course material, grades, or other concerns. You are welcome to stop by with or without an appointment. If you are not able to meet at any of the listed times, you can also contact me by email to set up a different time.

Free Tutoring

Tutoring is available at the Tutoring and Academic Support Program Learning Commons located on the first floor of Moffett Library. Other tutoring services, both on- and off- campus, are also available.

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.

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.

Course Policies and Information

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Primary communication about this course will be through the course D2L page. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the instructor.

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Any incident in which a student submits work for grading that does not reflect their own effort is considered academic dishonesty. This includes using sources (by paraphrase or direct quotation) without proper attribution; collaborating on work where collaboration is not authorized; use of sources on an assignment or test where those sources are not authorized; and turning in work completed by another person.

Cheating on any work in this course will result in no credit for that work.

Egregious or repeated incidents will result in more serious consequences, such as 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.

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 contact [Disability Support Services](#).

University Policies

Student Handbook

This course will follow university policies as specified in the MSU [Student Handbook](#)

Grade Appeal Process

As specified in the student handbook, grade appeals will be considered only in cases where an error has been made in calculating a grade or where a student has not been graded according to the same standards as others in the course. In these cases, follow the grade appeal procedure in the student handbook.