

Course Syllabus

Spring 2018

Math 0315 – Beginning Algebra

Instructor: Kiyomi Kaskela

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Office Hours: (Also by appointment)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1:15 – 3:30 PM	10:25 – 10:55 AM	12:50 – 1:35 PM	10:25 – 10:55 AM	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
	3:25 – 3:55 PM		3:25 – 3:55 PM	

TEXT: Elementary and Intermediate Algebra, Sullivan/ Struve/Mazzarella, 2014, Fourth edition, Pearson Education, Inc.

Course Specific Instructions: There are video tapes of many topics available in the room M116 in the math building at the Levelland campus. These tapes can be viewed in the lab, or checked out and taken home for viewing. These videos can also be viewed online. Go to Blackboard, for the log in name and password type “mvideos”. You can then find the appropriate course and the topic in which you are interested.

Tutoring: Students can obtain tutoring at no charge in Room 116 on the South Plains Campus in Levelland and at the Reese Center in room RC212, Building 2.

Course Purpose/Rational/Goal: The purpose of this course is to provide a background in algebra concepts necessary for MATH0320.

Course Requirements: To maximize the potential to complete this course, a student should attend all class meetings, take notes and participate in class, complete all homework assignments and examinations including final examinations.

Course Evaluation: Your grade will be determined by the 4 in-class tests (100 points each), the comprehensive final (200 points), homework assignments (200 points total), and in class worksheet grades (200 points total). There will be no makeups for any test. If you miss a test by a valid reason/documentation, your final exam grade will replace your missed test grade based on a 100-point scale. (If you can make arrangements and take the test before it is handed back, you may take the same test as the rest of the class.) Also, for those students with the good attendance and class participation, the lowest in-class test grade will be replaced with your final test grade based on a 100-point scale (if it is higher than the in-class test.).

Homework: Homework assignment(s) will be assigned each lecture day. Then, the following Monday (for MW class) and Tuesday (for TT classes), they will be picked up. **All work will be shown on the homework, or it will be counted as not done.** The collected homework from any one week is considered as one weekly homework grade. As your semester homework grade, the top 10 weekly homework grades will be chosen. No late homework will be accepted. If you miss a class, you are expected to get the assignment from a classmate or the instructor and stay caught up.

Assessment Procedures: The summary assessment of students' mastery of the skills and concepts as specified in the expected learning outcomes will occur, with appropriate course grades assigned as follows:

900 – 1000	A	In-class tests (4 x 100)	400
800 – 899	B	HW grade (20 x 10)	200
700 – 799	C	Worksheets grade (in class)	200
600 – 699	D	Final exam (1 x 200)	200
Below 600	F		
			1000

Attendance Policy: A student who misses two consecutive weeks of class or a total of five absences will be dropped from the class. If you miss a class, you are expected to get the assignment from a classmate or the instructor. You are also encouraged to come to my office during my office hours to catch up with the class. Any time you miss a class, you will also receive a zero for that day's lab grade.

Core Objectives:

Communication Skills:

- Develop, interpret, and express ideas through written communication
- Develop, interpret, and express ideas through oral communication
- Develop, interpret, and express ideas through visual communication

Critical Thinking:

- Generate and communicate ideas by combining, changing, and reapplying existing information
- Gather and assess information relevant to a question
- Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information

Empirical and Quantitative Competency Skills:

- Manipulate and analyze numerical data and arrive at an informed conclusion
- Manipulate and analyze observable facts and arrive at an informed conclusion

Student Learning Outcomes/Competencies:

Successful completion of this course should reflect mastery of the following objectives:

(Chapter and section numbers are indicated in parentheses.)

1. Add, subtract, multiply and divide real numbers. (1.4, 1.5)
2. Use the order of operations to simplify an expression. (1.7)
3. Simplify algebraic expressions. (1.8)
4. Solve linear equations. (2.1, 2.2, 2.3)
5. Translate and solve word problems. (2.5, 2.6, 2.7)
6. Solve linear inequalities. (2.8)
7. Graph equations in two variables by the intercept method and the slope-intercept method. (3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4)
8. Solve systems of equations by graphing, substitution, and elimination. (4.1, 4.2, 4.3)
9. Evaluate expressions using exponent rules. (5.2, 5.4)
10. Add, subtract, multiply and divide polynomials. (5.1, 5.3, 5.5)
11. Factor polynomials, (6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5)
12. Solve quadratic equations by factoring. (6.6)

The two main course objectives are: solve a linear equation and be able to factor. Students will be expected to be able to factor well when they finish Math 0315.

Academic Honesty: You are expected to uphold the ideas of academic honesty. All work that is graded must be your own. This policy applies to all work attempted in this course. If this policy is violated the student will receive an **F** for the assignment and will be dropped with an **F**.

Equal Opportunity: South Plains College strives to accommodate the individual needs of all students in order to enhance their opportunities for success in the context of a comprehensive community college setting. It is the policy of South Plains College to offer all educational and employment opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability, or age.

Disability Statement: Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

Classroom Civility: Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Please be respectful of your fellow classmates. **Turn off all cell phones, pagers, and electronic devices (Ipods, Mp3 players, CD players, etc.) before entering the room** and refrain from reading newspapers, chewing tobacco products, or otherwise being disruptive in class. Also, **no food or drinks in the classroom are allowed.** If you have a valid reason to keep your cellphone or other electronic devices on, don't hesitate to discuss with me before class.

***"Your cellphone cannot be seen or heard in the classroom."
(Consequence: a 5-point reduction from the upcoming test.)***

Student Dress: Reasonable standards of decency apply to the college community. The student should dress in a manner which does not distract from the academic atmosphere. Revealing attire or clothing carrying obscene or offensive slogans are not permitted. In all academic buildings, classrooms, offices, the Student Center, and dining facilities, students are required to wear shirts and shoes.

School Sponsored Events: If a student misses class because of participation (being a spectator at any sporting event does not qualify) in a school sponsored event (athletics, choir, etc.), it is the student's responsibility to:

1. Inform the instructor about the absence **prior** to the date;
2. Hand in assignments due during planned absence **prior** to the absence (unless specifically granted permission to do otherwise);
3. Arrange with instructor to take any exams that will be missed during the period of absence.

Religious Holy Days: In accordance with Section 51.911, Texas Education Code, South Plains College will allow a student who is absent from class for the observance of a religious holy day to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within seven (7) calendar days after the absence. Students are required to file a written notification of absence with each instructor within the first fifteen (15) days of the semester in which the absence will occur. Forms for this purpose are available in the Student Services Office along with instructions and procedures. "Religious holy days" means a holy day observed by a religion whose place of worship is exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code.

Campus Concealed Carry: Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC policy at:

(http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.php)

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

Disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to alter any class policies as deemed necessary by the instructor, and will announce any changes in class. If a student has any questions about a change in policy, ask the instructor for clarification.

Recording Lectures: To improve the teaching method, the instructor may record the lecture with or without a notice.

Math 0315 Schedule (Subject to change)

WEEK	Week of	SECTIONS COVERED
1	January 14	Syllabus 1.4 1.5 1.7
2	January 21	1.8 5.1 5.2
3	January 28	5.3 Test 1 (no calculator) (Sections 1.4 - 5.2)
4	February 4	5.4 5.5
5	February 11	2.1 2.2
6	February 18	2.3 Test 2 (no calculator) (Sections 5.3 – 2.2)
7	February 25	2.5 2.6 2.7
8	March 4	2.8 3.1
9	March 18	3.2 3.3 3.4
10	March 25	Test 3 (Sections 2.3 – 3.4) 4.1
11	April 1	4.2 4.3 6.1
12	April 8	6.2 6.3
13	April 15	6.4 6.6
14	April 22	6.5 Test 4 (Sections 4.1 – 6.6 excluding 6.5)
15	April 29	Review
16	May 7 – May 10	Final Exam (comprehensive, departmental)

Other Important Dates

Monday, January 15: Holiday (Martin Luther King Day)
Tuesday, January 16: 1st class day
Spring Break: March 12 – March 16
Monday, April 2: Holiday (Easter Monday)
Thursday, April 26: Last Day to drop a course
May 9 – May 12: Final Exam week

Final Examinations:

MATH0315-202 (MW 11 AM Class)	Monday, May 7	10:15 AM – 12:15 PM
MATH0315-209 (TT 11 AM Class)	Tuesday, May 8	10:15 AM – 12:15 PM
MATH0315-212 (TT 5:20 PM Class)	Tuesday, May 8	5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

"Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending."
 ~**Maria Robinson**

"Opportunities are usually disguised as hard work, so most people don't recognize them." ~ **Ann Landers**