

SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE  
MATHEMATICS AND ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT  
COURSE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES  
**MATH 0315: BEGINNING ALGEBRA Course Syllabus**

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**Office Hours:** TO BE ANNOUNCED

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

**COURSE PURPOSE:** To provide a solid foundation in algebra for the students who have had little or no algebra background. This course is designed to furnish the algebraic background necessary for enrollment in Math 0320.

**TEXTBOOK (The hardcopy book is optional):** Elementary and Intermediate Algebra, Sullivan/Struve/Mazzarella, fourth edition, Pearson Education. The **ebook** is available on My Math Lab. **My Math Lab (MML) is required.** The website is [www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com](http://www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com) . You may purchase MML online with a **14 day grace period for payment**. MML may also be purchased at the book store as a stand alone or in combination with the hardcopy textbook.

**SUPPLIES:** You will need a scientific calculator, pencils, graph paper and a **three ring binder** for notes and homework. Calculators will not be allowed on some tests. **Graphing calculators are not allowed.**

**ATTENDANCE:** Attendance and effort are important activities for success in this course. The following will be considered as absences: sleeping in class, two tardies, ten minutes late, nonparticipation, disruptive behavior, leaving before class is dismissed, cell phone ringing, and any use of the cell phone during class. A student that does not participate in class may be dropped by the instructor. Taking notes, doing homework, and working lab exercises are examples of participation. If you are **absent four times** throughout the semester you may be dropped with an X or an F by your instructor. Absences are not considered excused or unexcused. They are just recorded as absences. **Please attend with a desire to participate and learn.**

**DROPPING A COURSE:** To drop the course, return a completed official drop to the registrar's office. Follow the official Drop/Withdrawal Policy & Procedures in the class schedule.

**HOMEWORK (HW):** HW and quizzes are on **My Math Lab (MML)** at [www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com](http://www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com) **MML is designed to help you succeed in math** and is delivered inside a web-based course delivery system. MML provides multimedia instruction and unlimited practice exercises correlated to the examples and exercises in your textbook. **I have had very positive feedback from students concerning MML.** The work will be submitted online as you work the problems on paper. Complete online **HW**, and **quizzes** within two days after lecture. **Do the same work on paper.** Have your work in order in a section marked homework in your **three ring binder** and bring it to class. Have the HW and quizzes in the same order that they occur on MML. Do not use a spiral. Late HW will not be accepted. **Use pencil for all work.** Write neatly. You may write on the back. **Copy the problem, show your work,** and clearly indicate the answer. **Skip a line** between each problem. The **heading** requires your **name**, date, chapter, and section. **Failure to follow these directions** may result in lower **HW** scores. Changes made to HW will be announced in class. Some HW sections are considered prerequisites and are not covered in lecture. **Good study habits are imperative for success.**

**TUTORING:** Tutoring is available in room 116 of the Mathematics-Engineering Building in Levelland. Tutoring is also available on the Reese campus in building two. Tutoring resources are also available online via **MML**. Use the SPC tutors at no charge.

**EXAMINATIONS:** There will be **4** major exams. You must show your work in pencil on the test. Tentative dates for the exams will be on the class schedule. Please correct the exams as they are returned in partial preparation for the final. **Exams may not be made up.** If you are absent on the day an exam is given, you will receive a grade of **zero** for that exam. At the discretion of your instructor, the final test grade **may** be used to replace one zero for a missed exam. Subsequent zeros will stand.

**GRADING: Homework and quizzes** on My Math Lab (MML) online will count as 20% of your overall grade. For **extra practice** work problems from the textbook. Some of the answers are in the back of the book. There will be **four exams and a final.** Each exam will count 15% and the final will count 20%. If class is dismissed during finals week due to weather or any other reason, your grade will be the average you have prior to taking the final test. Exams **MAY NOT** be made up. Be in class on exam days. Final grades will be awarded on the following scale: **A** 90-100; **B** 80-89; **C** 70-79; **D** 60-69; **F** below 60. A student with two or fewer absences may be considered for a PR if all HW and quizzes are completed successfully (70% or greater).

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- 1. READ YOUR SYLLABUS!**
- 2. Attend class. Avoid being tardy.** Be aware of announcements made in class.
- 3. Read the sections assigned before class.**
- 4. Do online assignments.**
- 5. Work extra problems,** as required, to understand each topic.
- 6. Turn cell phones OFF or on silent prior to entering the classroom.**  
*A cell phone violation may result in a student being dropped from the class.  
Any use of the cell phone is considered a violation.*

**Behavior and Discipline:** Please keep a **positive attitude** and come to class desirous to learn. Treat yourself and others with respect. Any student not doing so will be asked to leave. Please assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Refrain from reading newspapers, chewing tobacco products, or otherwise being disruptive in class. A student is considered absent for disruptive behavior. Keep cell phones off or on silent and out of sight. A violation of cell phone rules is considered disruptive behavior. Keep all other electronic devices off. You may be dropped from the class for any disruptive behavior.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

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. (1.5)
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)
- \*8b. Connect and use multiple strands of mathematical situations and problems, as well as in the study of other disciplines. (4.4, 4.5) If you have ample time, cover these two sections. \*8b is recommended, but not required
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.**

*“Opportunities are usually disguised as hard work, so most people don’t recognize them” ~ Ann Landers*

**Math 0315 Schedule (Subject to change)**

<b>WEEK</b>	<b>SECTIONS COVERED</b>
1	Syllabus 1.4 1.5 1.7
2	1.8 2.1 2.2
3	2.3 <b>Exam 1</b> (no calculator)
4	2.5 2.6 2.7
5	2.8 3.1 3.2
6	3.3 3.4
7	<b>Exam 2</b> 5.1
8	5.2 5.3
9	5.4 5.5
10	<b>Exam 3</b> 6.1
11	6.2 6.3 6.4
12	6.5 6.6
13	4.1 4.2 4.3
14	Review <b>Exam 4</b>
15	Review
16	<b>Final Exam</b>

**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 Special 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 Special Services Coordinator. For more information, call or visit the Special Services Office in the Student Services building, 894-9611 ext 2529.

**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.

**DIVERSITY STATEMENT:** In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

**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](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.