Foundations of Algebra Syllabus
Math 0305.501
Fall 2024

Instructor: Thomas Johnson, M.S. – Associate Professor of Mathematics

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Office Hours in Plainview, TX:

 M/W   9:15 AM to 9:50 AM

T/H   10:00 AM to 11:00 AM; 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

F   8:30 AM to 11:30 AM

Email Correspondence: All email correspondence should come from your SPC email address. Please give me up to 24 hours to respond via email. If you email about a specific math question, please attach a picture of the question and the work that you have tried.

Disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to alter any class policies/dates as deemed necessary by the instructor. If there are any changes, they will be announced **over Blackboard and via your SPC email.**

Showing Work: To receive full credit on practice problems and exams, you must show all work that leads to your answers. The work must be legible, make sense and be easy to follow. All work and answers should be handwritten.

*** No Calculators to be used in this course. ***

Course Supplies:
- Required: Notebook paper on which to complete your assignments
- Required: Printed Notes. A blank copy of the notes will be posted on Blackboard. You should print them off and fill them out as we go through the notes in class. Please note that the SPC campus computer labs are available if you want to print your notes off there. You could also print them off at most public libraries, but please note that it usually requires you to pay a small fee per page. I recommend keeping all of your notes in order in a notebook so they are easily accessible.
- Recommended: Large 3-ring binder with dividers to organize all notes and homework.

Attendance: Course attendance will be taken. Per South Plains College math department policy, you will be administratively dropped from the course if your number of missed submissions goes over 20% of all submissions.

Required Tutoring Lab Attendance:
- You must attend the tutoring lab provided by South Plains College to get assistance and practice for 60 minutes (1 hour) weekly.
- When you arrive at the Tutoring Lab, check in on the Penji app to get credit for your attendance.
- The week is from Monday through Friday.
- Your grade will be computed by finding the ratio of the minutes you attended the tutoring lab over the required 60 minutes ($\frac{attended\ minutes}{60} \cdot 100$).

Academic Dishonesty:
Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Please see the list of things that constitute plagiarism and cheating in the general Math 0305 syllabus. If you violate anything on those lists, you will receive a zero on the assignment and could be subject to other actions outlined in the South Plains College Student Code of Conduct. Please note that these actions could include failing the course and being expelled from the college.

Note: There are assignments for each set of notes, and they are due one week **after** they appear in the schedule.

How this class works: This course is a "flipped" classroom. In Blackboard, you will find Modules with notes and assignments. Each Module is a Week of study. Assignments are due at the beginning of the next Week/Module. At the end of Weeks/Modules 5 and 10, Exams will be given. Week/Module 15 is Final Exam week. Each Exam is cumulative.

Grading Formula:

Completing all submissions and having a strong work ethic are important but do not guarantee a passing grade. However, these two things do increase the likelihood of passing. <u>The final responsibility for learning lies with the student</u>. The final letter grade for this course will be based on the following:

- Required Tutor Lab Attendance……………………………………………..10%
- Assignments…………………………………………………………………..................20%
- Week/Module 5 – Exam #1 ....20%
- Week/Module 10 – Exam #2 …………………………………………………………20%
- Week/Module 15 - Final Exam (#3)…………………………………………………………...30%

Final Grade Determination: A 90-100 B 80-89 C 70-79 D 60-69 F 59 or below

Reviewing Grades on Blackboard: After I grade your assignments, you should be able to log into Blackboard to see your grade.

Resources:
- Blackboard! The course syllabus, calendar, gradebook, notes handouts, and assignments will be available on Blackboard.
- I am available to help you! Feel free to email me at tjohnson@southplainscollege.edu .When you email me, please give me up to 24 hours to respond. If you email about a specific math question, please attach a picture of the question and the work that you have tried.
- Peer tutoring is available via SPC and is required for this course Visit the link below to learn more about SPC tutoring: http://www.southplainscollege.edu/exploreprograms/artsandsciences/teacheredtutoring.php
- Free tutorial videos are available at the following sites: https://www.mathtv.com/ and https://www.khanacademy.org/.

Withdrawal Policy: As required by Texas Education Code Section 51.907, all new students who enroll in a Texas public institution of higher education for the first time beginning with the 2007 fall semester and thereafter, are limited to six course drops throughout their entire undergraduate career. All course drops, including those initiated by students or faculty and any course a transfer student has dropped at another institution, automatically count toward the limit. After six grades of W are received, students must receive grades of A, B, C, D, or F in all courses. There are other exemptions from the six-drop limit and students should consult with a Counselor/Educational Planner before they drop courses to determine these exemptions. Students receiving financial aid must get in touch with the Financial Aid Office before withdrawing from a course. It is the student's responsibility to drop. Excessive absences will result in an administrative withdrawal with a Grade of X or F. If you plan to withdraw, please consult with the instructor immediately. **Note: The last day to drop with a grade of W is Thursday, 30 November 2023.**

Succeeding in a Math Class:
- Be mentally present! Pay attention and ask questions in class.
- Plan ahead. Do notes and practice problems early enough before the due date that you will have time to ask questions or seek help if you need it.
- Get help as soon as you feel yourself falling behind! Don't wait!
- All notes printouts and practice problems for the course are posted on Blackboard. If you want to get ahead, that is encouraged. Time management is crucial.
- I have found that the best way for a student to study for a math exam is to practice working problems over and over.
- Everyone learns and studies differently. I encourage you to seek out and find what works best for you.

Week	Topics	Assignments
1 Aug 26-30	Introduction	
	Tips for success in math courses	
	Notes 1: Adding & Subtracting Whole Numbers (including basic facts)	Assignment 1
2 Sept 2-6	Time Management	
	Labor Day: Those who have 2 classes this week can work more on multiplication facts.	
	Notes 2: Multiplying & Dividing Whole Numbers (including basic facts)	Assignment 2
3 Sept 9-13	Overcoming Anxiety	
	Notes 3: Introduction to Integers, Absolute Value, Additive Inverses, Adding & Subtracting Integers	Assignment 3
	Notes 4: Multiplying & Dividing Integers	Assignment 4
4 Sept 16-20	How to Read & Use Class Material	
	Notes 5: Evaluating Exponents, Prime Factoring & Square Roots	Assignment 5
	Notes 6: Finding Greatest Common Factor (GCF) & Least Common Multiple (LCM)	Assignment 6
5 Sept 23-27	Note Taking for Math	
	Notes 7: Simplifying Fractions, Finding Reciprocals, Multiplying & Dividing Fractions	Assignment 7
	Exam 1 (Covers Notes 1 through 7)	
6 Sept 30 - Oct 4	Using Available Resources	
	Notes 8: Adding & Subtracting Fractions; Mixed Numbers	Assignment 8
	Notes 9: Decimal Places, Adding & Subtracting Decimals	Assignment 9
7 Oct 7-11	Improving Memory	
	Notes 10: Multiplying & Dividing Decimals	Assignment 10
	Notes 11: Percents, Converting Between Fractions, Decimals & Percents	Assignment 11
8 Oct 14-18	Preparing for a Math Test	
	Notes 12: Order of Operations	Assignment 12
	Notes 13: Evaluating Algebraic Expressions	Assignment 13
9 Oct 21-25	Math Test-Taking Strategies	
	Notes 14: Solving One-Step and Two-Step Equations (include single fraction)	Assignment 14
	Notes 15: Solving Multi-Step Equations	Assignment 15
10 Oct 28 - Nov 1	After Math Test Behavior	
	Notes 16: Percent Equations, Applications of Linear Equations	Assignment 16
	Exam 2 (Covers Week 1 through 16)	
11 Nov 4-8	Notes 17: Solving Linear Inequalities	Assignment 17
	Notes 18: Rules of Exponents Part 1	Assignment 18
12 Nov 11-15	Preparing for a Math Final Exam	
	Notes 19: Rules of Exponents Part 2	Assignment 19
	Notes 20: More with Rules of Exponents	Assignment 20
13 Nov 18-22	Notes 21: Intro to Polynomials; Add, Subtract, Multiply Polynomials (including 2 variables), Divide by a Monomial	Assignment 21
	Notes 22: Coordinate Plane Basics	Assignment 22
14 Nov 25-29	Notes 23: Intro to Lines & Slope	Assignment 23
	Thanksgiving Break (Wednesday & Thursday)	
15 Dec 2-6	Notes 24: Graphing Linear Equations	Assignment 24
	Review for Comprehensive Final Exam	
16 Dec 9-13	**Final Exam!** **Wednesday, December 11** from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the usual classroom	