

McLennan Community College – Mathematics Department
Math 1314: College Algebra

Sec 02 (6210) MW 8 am – 9:20 am

Sec 05 (6213) MW 11:10 am – 12:30 pm

Sec 14 (7656) MW 1 pm – 2:20 pm

Room SB 214

Syllabus – Spring 2010

Instructor: Dr. April K. Andreas
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Office: Science Building, Room 221
Phone: (254) 299-8130

Department Website: <http://www.mclennan.edu/departments/math/>

Course Website: <http://www.cleverfred.com/mcc/>

In case the school has to close due to inclement weather, please visit the school website for up to date official information at <http://www.mclennan.edu/>.

Catalog Description: May include the following topics: linear, quadratic, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and rational functions, their graphs, and their use in mathematical modeling; composition and inverses of functions, systems of linear equations and inequalities; matrices and determinants; and sequences and series. Problem solving with algebraic applications relevant to today's world is emphasized throughout.

Prerequisites: Prerequisite: A score of 270 or above on the math portion of THEA or equivalent score on approved alternative test, credit for MATH 0311, or consent of division director.

Required Textbook: *College Algebra: Concepts through Functions*, Robert Blitzer, 2010.

Calculator: This course requires a TI-84 or TI-83 graphing calculator

MyMathLab Interactive Homework: In order to access course materials through Blackboard, you will need to access CourseCompass, using MyMathLab.

1. Go to www.coursecompass.com and click on Register.
2. Enter your six-word student access code, school zip code (76708), and country.
3. Enter the Course ID based on which section you are enrolled in:

MW 8 am – 9:20 am	andreas41066
MW 11:10 am – 12:30 pm	andreas45823
MW 1 pm – 2:20 pm	andreas55829
4. Fill in the requested information, and then create your unique Login Name and Password. It's recommended that you use your email address as your login name.
5. Return to www.coursecompass.com and log in. At the Welcome page, click on the course you are taking.
6. The first time you enter the site from your computer and anytime you use a new computer, click on the software Installation Wizard on the Announcements page or on the navigational buttons on the bottom left side of the screen. This wizard will walk you through the installation of the software you will need to use the MyMathLab resources. Note: the software may already be installed in the school lab. Check with your lab administrator. Technical problems? Call Tech Support at 800-677-6337, Monday – Friday 9am – 6pm EST.

Note that we will use MyMathLab for all homework, tests, and other graded work. MyMathLab also contains additional study materials that you will likely find useful.

Office Hours. Unless announced otherwise, my office hours will be MW 9:30 am – 10:30 am and TTh 11:30 am – 1:00 pm. You can also make an appointment to meet with me at another particular time, and are also welcome to drop by my office without an appointment.

SMARTHINKING: MCC has an online tutoring resource called SMARTHINKING which is available 24/7. To access these resources, log into Blackboard, and click the Smarthinking tab to connect with a live tutor. For more information, email Ken Walker at kwalker@mclennan.edu.

Math Lab. Any student enrolled in this class has free access to the Math Lab, located in HPE 218. Hours of operation are usually Monday – Thursday 8:00 am – 7:30 pm and Friday 8:00 am – 2:00 pm. Call (254) 299-8809 to confirm for particular days.

Attendance. Attendance is mandatory. No absences are “excused,” with the exception of religious holy days as defined by the MCC attendance policy. *Per MCC policy, you will be automatically dropped after missing 25% of class meetings, or 7 classes.* If the student is dropped before the official drop date, the student will receive a grade of W. If the student is dropped after the official drop date, the student will receive a grade of F, unless there are *highly unusual circumstances*.

ADA Statement. “In accordance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and the regulations published by the United States Department of Justice 28 C.F.R. 35.107(a), MCC’s designated ADA co-coordinators, Mr. Gene Gooch - Vice President, Finance and Administration and Dr. Santos Martinez – Vice President, Student Services shall be responsible for coordinating the College’s efforts to comply with and carry out its responsibilities under ADA. Students with disabilities requiring physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact Mr. Marcus Sweatt, Disabilities Specialist, at 299-8122 or mwsweatt@mclennan.edu.”

Six Drop Rule. Students who enroll at MCC as entering freshman or first-time college students during the fall 2007 semester or any subsequent semester may not drop more than six courses. The six-course limit does not apply to students who were enrolled in college courses prior to the fall 2007 semester. Students who have completed a baccalaureate degree at any accredited public or private institution are not subject to the six-course limit. The six course limit includes courses taken at MCC or any other Texas public institution of higher education. If a seventh drop is attempted, the student and instructor will be informed that the student must remain in the course and the student will receive a grade of A, B, C, D, F or I. He/she will not be able to receive a W or withdrawal grade and will not be due a refund of tuition and fees. All courses dropped after the semester census date are included in the six-course limit unless (1) the student withdraws from all courses or (2) the drop is an approved drop exemption.

Academic Dishonesty. Any student that is found guilty of academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, or collusion, will receive the zero grade on every test or assignment involved. For repeated violations, a guilty student can be assigned a failing grade in this course and can be recommended for suspension from the McLennan Community College District.

Makeup Policy and Late Assignments: No makeup tests will be given. If you miss a test due to illness / sleeping in / WoW raid, that will be the test grade which is replaced with your final to make up your total test score. If you will miss the final due to illness or other excused absence as defined by the MCC attendance policy, you must let me know in advance in order to make up the grade. Late assignments will not be accepted. Ever.

Miscellaneous: Normally, please do not bring your children, friends, or guests to the class. (Please discuss this with me because I do not want you missing class if you cannot make child care arrangements.)

Privacy: Because of Privacy Laws, I can only discuss your grade with you, in person and in private. I can only discuss grades by e-mail if you e-mail me with your university address.

Grading Policy

Item Type	Percent of Total Grade
Preparation Exam	10%
Homework	25%
Mid-Chapter Checkpoint	15%
Tests	30%
Final Exam	20%
Total Bonus	100%

Item Type	Points added to Final Grade
Locate Office	1
Midterm Conference	1
Homework Completion	Up to 3
Total Bonus	5

A: 90% **B: 80% – 89%** **C: 70% – 79%** **D: 60% – 69%** **F: 0% – 59%**

Preparation Exam: Your first assignment for this class is a preparation check. It will be expected that you pretty much know everything (or can quickly remind yourself of) the material in the prep check. It is due two weeks from the first day of class by 8 am. Take a look at the prep exam as soon as you can. If most of what is there looks completely foreign to you, I strongly recommend you come talk to me for placement in Math 307 or Math 311. Please don't try to "tough it out." It's only going to bite you later.

Homework: All assignments should be completed through Blackboard/Course Compass. You will have unlimited tries to complete each problem, and your highest grade on each assignment will be recorded. Completing and understanding each problem is essential to your success in class. It is your responsibility to keep up with the assignments and to come to office hours if you need help. **DO NOT** wait until right before an exam to get help with the homework.

In the case that CourseCompass breaks down, equivalent homework assignments are listed in this syllabus and on the course website listed at the top of the first page of the syllabus. Work that would normally be turned in via CourseCompass should be turned into class the day it is due. Click the Current Classes link, and then click the Daily Assignments link to access those materials. **Even if Blackboard / CourseCompass isn't working, you are still responsible to turn in all assignments on time!** If you do not show your work on homework that is turned in on paper, you will not receive any credit. Do not turn in paper-based assignments unless there is a technical problem with getting the homework completed on CourseCompass.

Tests: All tests will be taken using the MyMathLab software. During this time, cell phones must be put away and turned off (not on vibrate... off). You can substitute your final exam grade for your lowest test score, if that grade is higher than any of your test grades. **Tests will be taken in the computer lab. The exact location will be announced in class prior to the test.**

You can get up to 10 bonus points on your test by completing the associated practice tests. You can retake the practice tests as many times as you want. Your highest grade will be the one recorded. Practice Tests are due by 8 am the day of the related test.

Score on Practice Test (%)	Bonus Points on Associated Test
95 – 100	10
90 – 94	8
85 – 89	6
80 – 84	4
75 – 80	2
74 or below	0

No tests may be retaken. You can bring your own calculator to class for the test, as well as a 3 x 5 notecard, on which you can write whatever you think will help. You must complete each test during the time given. If you are late for class or come without your username and password, you forfeit that amount of time to work.

- Example 1: If your test grades are 95, 80, and 68, and your final exam grade is 83, your test average will be $(95 + 80 + 83)/3 = 86$.
- Example 2: If your test grades are 95, 80, and 68, and your final exam grade is 32, your test average will be $(95 + 80 + 68)/3 = 81$.
- Example 3: If you miss a test, your test average will average the two tests you did take and your final exam grade.

Comprehensive Final Exam: The comprehensive final will be on the date and time listed below. *You must attend the final exam that corresponds with your section.* It will be taken in class. The final exam grade cannot be dropped or retaken. You can bring your own calculator to class for the final exam, as well as a 3 x 5 notecard, on which you can write whatever you think will help.

Section Meeting Time	Final Exam Date	Final Exam Time
MW 8 am – 9:20 am	Monday, May 3	8:00 am – 10:00 am
MW 11:10 am – 12:30 pm	Monday, May 3	11:10 am – 1:10 pm
MW 1 pm – 2:20 pm	Wednesday, May 5	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Bonus Points. You will have the opportunity to increase your grade by completing various tasks throughout the semester that are aimed to help you learn college success strategies. None of these tasks are required, and they do not provide enough extra points that you can actually skip any major assignment, but they can potentially help push your score up a letter grade.

Locate Office. You must find my office and sign the door before 2:30 pm on **Friday, January 22**. (If I am there you are certainly welcome to talk to me!)

Midterm Conference. Some time between February 8 and April 9, make an appointment with me to discuss how things are going in the class.

Homework Completion. Historically, those who fail College Algebra are people who don't successfully finish their homework. If you earn a 50% or higher on all homework assignments related to a test, you will receive one bonus point on your final grade, for a maximum of three points for all three tests.

Test #	Related Chapters	Related HW
1	1	1 – 6
2	2	7 – 13
3	3, 4	14 – 20

Daily Calendar

Please Note: You are responsible for everything in the sections listed in the detailed calendar below, whether or not it is actually covered in class. You should work out the examples in the book before completing your homework.

Date	Content	Assigned	Due
Mon, Jan 11	P2 & P3 - Exponents, Radicals and Rational Exponents	Prep Exam	
Wed, Jan 13	P4 & P5 & P6 - Polynomials & Factoring & Simplifying Rational Expressions		
Wed, Jan 20	1.1 & Visit Computer Lab	HW 1	
Mon, Jan 25	1.2 Linear Equations & Rational Expressions		Prep Exam
Wed, Jan 27	1.3 Word Problems	HW 2	HW 1
Mon, Feb 1	1.4 Complex Numbers	HW 3	HW 2
Wed, Feb 3	1.5 Quadratic Equations	HW 4	HW 3
Mon, Feb 8	1.6 Solving other types of equations	HW 5	HW 4, Mid Chapter Check
Wed, Feb 10	1.7 Linear Inequalities and Absolute Value Inequalities	HW 6	HW 5
Mon, Feb 15	2.1 Basics of Functions	HW 7	HW 6
Wed, Feb 17	<u>Test 1 in Computer Lab (Chapter 1)</u>		Test 1 Review (Optional)
Mon, Feb 22	2.2 More on Functions and Their Graphs	HW 8	HW 7
Wed, Feb 24	2.3 Linear Function and Slope	HW 9	HW 8
Mon, Mar 1	2.4 More on Slope	HW 10	HW 9
Wed, Mar 3	2.6 Combinations of Functions, Composite Functions	HW 11	HW 10
Mon, Mar 15	2.7 Inverse Functions	HW 12	HW 11, Mid Chapter Check
Wed, Mar 17	2.8 Distance, Midpoint, & Circles	HW 13	HW 12
Mon, Mar 22	3.6 Polynomial & Rational Inequalities	HW 14	HW 13
Wed, Mar 24	<u>Test 2 in Computer Lab (Chapter 2)</u>		Test 2 Review (Optional)
Mon, Mar 29	3.7 Modeling Using Variation	HW 15	HW 14
Wed, Mar 31	4.1 Exponential Functions	HW 16	HW 15
Mon, Apr 5	4.2 Logarithmic Functions	HW 17	HW 16
Wed, Apr 7	4.3 Properties of Logarithms	HW 18	HW 17
Mon, Apr 12	4.4 Exponential and Logarithmic Equations	HW 19	HW 18, Mid Chapter Check
Wed, Apr 14	4.5 Exponential Growth & Decay; Modeling Data	HW 20	HW 19
Mon, Apr 19	5.1 Systems of Linear Equations in Two Variables	HW 21	HW 20
Wed, Apr 21	<u>Test 3 in Computer Lab (Chapters 3 & 4)</u>		Test 3 Review (Optional)
Mon, Apr 26	5.2 Systems of Linear Equations in Three Variables	HW 22	HW 21
Wed, Apr 28	<u>Review Day</u>		HW 22

All work, including the prep exam, mid-chapter checks, test reviews, and homework are due by 8 am on the due date.

Backup Assignments

Please Note: You should complete all assignments through CourseCompass. In the event that CourseCompass is not working, you may complete the following problems and turn them in on paper during class time. If you do not show your work, you will not receive credit. Do not turn in assignments on paper unless there is a significant technical problem with CourseCompass. You may not turn in more than 3 paper assignments during the year.

Homework #	Chapter.Section	Problems	Due
HW1	1.1, 1.2	1.1: 1, 3, 7, 9, 17, 29, 41, 43, 45, 51, 57 1.2: 1, 3, 9, 17, 31, 33, 45, 57, 73, 75, 89, 93	Wed, Jan 27
HW2	1.3	3, 5, 9, 19, 21, 25, 29, 33, 35, 43, 55, 57, 63, 71	Mon, Feb 1
HW3	1.4	1, 3, 9, 11, 13, 19, 21, 23, 27, 29, 31, 41, 45, 49	Wed, Feb 3
HW4	1.5	1, 5, 9, 13, 21, 25, 33, 35, 37, 39, 67, 73, 75, 111, 135, 139, 143	Mon, Feb 8
HW5	1.6	1, 3, 9, 11, 19, 23, 53, 41, 45, 51, 55, 61, 67, 83, 85, 99, 101, 113, 125	Wed, Feb 10
HW6	1.7	1, 3, 7, 15, 17, 23, 25, 27, 31, 39, 45, 53, 59, 63, 79, 103, 119	Mon, Feb 15
HW7	2.1	1, 3, 11, 13, 15, 25, 27, 35, 55, 57, 61, 73, 75, 77, 81, 85, 93, 95	Mon, Feb 22
HW8	2.2	1, 3, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 41, 45, 47, 57, 59	Wed, Feb 24
HW9	2.3	1, 3, 9, 11, 17, 25, 27, 31, 37, 39, 41, 45, 47, 49, 51, 59	Mon, Mar 1
HW10	2.4	1, 3, 5, 9, 13, 15, 19, 21, 27, 37	Wed, Mar 3
HW11	2.6	1, 3, 7, 9, 15, 17, 23, 31, 33, 43, 49, 53, 59, 69, 75	Mon, Mar 15
HW12	2.7	1, 3, 7, 9, 11, 13, 17, 23, 29, 33, 39, 43, 49, 53, 55, 57, 81	Wed, Mar 17
HW13	2.8	1, 3, 9, 19, 21, 27, 31, 33, 39, 41, 43, 45, 57, 61, 69	Mon, Mar 22
HW14	3.6	1, 3, 7, 11, 15, 23, 27, 39, 45, 53, 61, 65, 87	Mon, Mar 29
HW15	3.7	1, 3, 9, 11, 13, 17, 21, 25, 35	Wed, Mar 31
HW16	4.1	1, 3, 5, 7, 11, 53, 55, 61, 65, 67, 69, 81	Mon, Apr 5
HW17	4.2	1, 3, 7, 11, 15, 19, 21, 25, 35, 37, 41, 75, 79, 81, 85, 89, 93, 101, 103, 111	Wed, Apr 7
HW18	4.3	1, 3, 9, 15, 17, 21, 27, 35, 37, 41, 43, 47, 49, 53, 57, 61, 69, 71, 75, 83, 85, 87	Mon, Apr 12
HW19	4.4	1, 5, 11, 13, 15, 19, 21, 27, 33, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 59, 63, 69, 73, 77, 83	Wed, Apr 14
HW20	4.5	1, 5, 7, 13, 15, 17, 29, 33, 35, 45, 51, 69	Mon, Apr 19
HW21	5.1	1, 3, 7, 11, 17, 21, 27, 33, 37, 41, 43	Mon, Apr 26
HW22	5.2	1, 3, 7, 13, 17, 19	Wed, Apr 28

I reserve the right to change any term on this syllabus at any time during the semester.