Math 1314.D10
College Algebra – Distance Learning

Instructor: Dr. Susan Abernathy-Taylor
Email: susan.abernathy@angelo.edu
Phone: 325-486-5442
Office: MCS 220i

Office Hours: MW 10am-1pm, TR 12:15-2:15pm, or by appointment.

Course Information

Course Meetings

There are no regular course meetings. The time in the schedule will be used for testing. We will meet in-person five times (four tests and the final exam). Dates and times are listed under test info.

Course Description

This is a distance learning college algebra course. We start with real number and exponents, then move on to solving equations and inequalities, and discussing functions. This includes logarithms and exponential functions, as well as systems of equations.

Prerequisite Courses

Completion of Mathematics Texas Success Initiative (TSI) requirements.

Required Texts and Materials

College Algebra from OpenStax. This is a free textbook available online. You can also purchase a print version, if you prefer, via the campus bookstore.

Communication

Faculty will usually respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until the next work day.
Written communication via email: All private communication should be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails to faculty, include the course name and section number in your subject line.

Student Responsibilities
The student is solely responsible for:

- **Staying home and completing the Wellness Screening in Ramport if you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 or have known exposure to a person who has tested positive.**
- **Maintaining academic honesty.**
- **Completing each assignment by the specified due date.**
- **Obtaining assignments (graded or newly assigned) and other materials for classes missed.**
- **Positively contributing to the classroom environment.** Be courteous; don’t use your phone in class; be on time; don’t disrupt your fellow classmates.
- **Being proactive about their grade in this course.** You are not given a grade in a college course; you EARN your grade. You may want or need a particular grade to graduate, maintain a scholarship, or stay in athletics, for instance. It is your responsibility to put in as much effort as it takes to earn this grade. This includes utilizing (as needed) all available study aid options (going to office hours and/or Math Lab, reading outside textbooks, meeting with the instructor, etc.) to resolve any questions or concerns you might have about any aspect of the course.

Grading

Grading System
Grades will be determined as follows:
Tests: 72% (Four tests will count 22%, 18%, 18%, and 14%, with the highest grade counting the most and the lowest grade counting the least)
Homework: 10%
Final Exam: 18%

Final grades will be based on the following grading scale: A is 89.5+, B is 79.5-89.49, C is 69.5-79.49, D is 59.5-69.49, F is below 59.5.

Homework and test grades will be posted in Blackboard. However, your overall grade is NOT computed in Blackboard – so you may see grades listed in Blackboard that do not directly count for your overall grade. For example, your lowest three homework grades WILL be dropped when I compute your final grade, but you will still see those lowest three homework grades in Bb.
Tests and Final Exam
There will be four tests as well as a cumulative final exam. All exams will be typical in-person, pencil-and-paper exams. If you are not in San Angelo or cannot commute to take exams, you will need to make alternative arrangements to have exams proctored. Please contact the instructor about this as soon as possible.

All exams will be 5:30-6:45pm in MCS 110 unless otherwise noted. If it benefits you, your final exam grade will replace your lowest test grade at the end of the semester.

Test and Final Exam dates are listed here.
   Test 1: Monday, September 20
   Test 2: Monday, October 11
   Test 3: Monday, November 1
   Test 4: Monday, November 22
   Final Exam: Monday, December 6, 8pm-10pm in MCS 110

Make-up tests are given only under extreme circumstances at the discretion of the instructor.

Homework
Homework will be completed online using MyOpenMath, a free resource. You do not need to pay for access or register anywhere; simply follow the homework links in Blackboard. In general, homework will be due Tuesdays and Fridays. Your lowest three homework grades will be dropped. Late homework will not be accepted, but you are welcome to complete assignments early.

Course Schedule
This subject matter listed below is tentative and subject to change. For current information about course topics, please contact the instructor.
Subject matter by week:
   1.  1.1, 1.2
   2.  1.3, 1.4
   3.  1.5
   4.  1.6
   5.  Test 1, 2.1
   6.  2.2, 2.3, 2.4
   7.  2.5, Review
   8.  Test 2, 2.6,
   9.  2.7, 3.1, 3.2
  10. 3.6, 4.1, Review
11. Test 3, 5.1
12. 6.1-6.4
13. 6.5, Review
14. Test 4
15. 7.1, 7.2, Review
16. Final Exam

**Student Learning Outcomes**

1. **Students will demonstrate factual knowledge including the mathematical notation and terminology used in this course.** Students will read, interpret, and use the vocabulary, symbolism, and basic definitions used in college algebra including the real numbers, exponents, radicals, polynomials, factoring, functions, equations, inequalities, and graphs.

2. **Students will describe the fundamental principles including the laws and theorems arising from the concepts covered in this course.** Students will identify and apply the laws and formulas that result directly from the definitions; for example, the quadratic formula, rules of exponents, and properties of logarithms.

3. **Students will apply course material along with techniques and procedures covered in this course to solve problems.** Students will use the facts, formulas, and techniques learned in this course to simplify algebraic expressions, graph functions, and solve inequalities, equations and systems of equations.

4. **Students will develop specific skills, competencies, and thought processes sufficient to support further study or work in this field or related fields.** Students will acquire a level of proficiency in the fundamental concepts and applications necessary for further study in academic areas requiring college algebra as a prerequisite, or for work in occupational fields requiring a background in algebra. These fields might include education, business, finance, marketing, computer science, physical sciences, and engineering, as well as mathematics.

**Course Content**

**Textbook:** College Algebra from OpenStax. This is a free textbook available online at [https://www.openstax.org/details/college-algebra](https://www.openstax.org/details/college-algebra). You can also purchase a print version, if you prefer, via the campus bookstore.

The following topics are covered.

1. **A Review of Basic Algebra:** Real Numbers; Integer Exponents and Scientific Notation; Rational Exponents and Radicals; Polynomials; Factoring Polynomials; Rational Expressions.
2. **Equations and Inequalities**: Linear Equations and Rational Equations; Applications of Linear Equations; Complex Numbers; Quadratic Equations; Applications of Quadratic Equations; Other Types of Equations; Inequalities; Absolute Value.

3. **Functions and Graphs**: Functions and Function Notation; The Rectangular Coordinate System and Graphing Lines; Linear Functions and Slope; Writing and Graphing Equations of Lines.

4. **Functions**: Graphs of Functions.

5. **Polynomial and Rational Functions**: Quadratic Functions

6. **Exponential and Logarithmic Functions**: Exponential Functions and Their Graphs; Logarithmic Functions and Their Graphs; Properties of Logarithms; Exponential and Logarithmic Equations.

7. **Linear Systems**: Systems of Linear Equations.

**General Policies Related to This Course**

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- Angelo State University Student Handbook
- Angelo State University Catalog

**Information About COVID-19**

Please refer to ASU’s [COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Updates](#) web page for current information about campus guidelines and safety standards as they relate to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the university’s [Statement of Academic Integrity](#).

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.
Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dr. Dallas Swafford  
Director of Student Disability Services  
Office of Student Affairs  
325-942-2047  
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu  
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

Incomplete Grade Policy
It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days
A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.
Title IX at Angelo State University

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Miller, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: Incident Reporting Form
Face to Face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
Phone: 325-942-2022
Email: michelle.miller@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit the Title IX website.

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1 College Algebra textbook from OpenStax: https://www.openstax.org/details/college-algebra
2 https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/student-handbook/
3 https://www.angelo.edu/academics/catalog/
4 https://www.angelo.edu/covid-19/
5 https://www.angelo.edu/live/files/27603-student-handbook-2020-21#page=96
6 https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/disability-services/
7 https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures
8 https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/writing-center/academic_honesty.php
https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of
https://www.angelo.edu/incident-form
https://www.angelo.edu/title-ix