

South Plains College
Math 0315 – Beginning Algebra
Course Syllabus
Fall 2016

Instructor: Morgan Groves
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Office Hours: Due to the nature of this course, there are no set office hours. However, I would be happy to come early or stay late after class for extra help, by appointment.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of MATH 0310 (a C or higher) or appropriate test score.

Textbook: Elementary and Intermediate Algebra, Sullivan/Mazzarella, 2014, Third Edition, Pearson Education, Inc.

Homework Access: MyMathLab.com access, which comes with a new book, or can be purchased separately. The course name is **Beginning Algebra – Fall 2016**; the course ID is **groves03488**.
All students are required to register in MyMathLab by the first Friday of classes.

Course Description: This course is designed for students who need MATH 0320 and have not had one year of high school algebra. Topics include signed numbers, algebraic expressions, linear equations and inequalities in one unknown, and graphing. Time in a math lab is required. This course will not satisfy graduation requirements. This course is required if testing indicates a need.

Course Purpose/Rational/Goal: The purpose of this course is to provide a background in beginning algebra concepts necessary for MATH 0320.

Student Learning Outcomes/Competencies*:

- Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
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)
 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)

*Developed by the Coordinating Board and the Faculty of South Plains College's Math and Engineering Department

Course Requirements: To maximize the potential to complete this course, a student should attend all class and laboratory meetings, take notes and participate in class, complete all homework assignments and examinations including final examinations. A student should work all homework problems by hand keeping a spiral of homework assignments with all work shown neatly. This is for practice purposes, as neat, legible work is expected on exams.

Course Evaluation: Your final grade will be determined by the average of 3 major tests, the comprehensive departmental final exam, and daily homework grades. The lowest test grade will be replaced with the final exam grade provided the final exam grade is higher. A minimum grade of 70 is needed to successfully pass this course.

Grading Scale:	A	90 – 100		
	B	80 – 89	Homework Quizzes:	20%
	C	70 – 79	Exams:	60%
	D	60 – 69	Final Exam:	20%
	F	0 – 59		

*****NOTE: I do NOT issue the grade of “PR” for this class under any circumstances.**

Class Notes: There are typed class notes available on Blackboard for you to print off prior to each class. You can also opt to purchase a spiral bounded copy of the semester notes from The Copy Outlet in Lubbock (2402 Broadway). Please email Dakota Meller (info@thecopyoutlet.com) to order your printed notes. They will NOT have them preprinted. The cost of these notes is \$14.60 + tax. Either option (printing yourself or purchasing the bounded notes), you must come to class every day prepared with these notes in hand.

Exams: There will be 3 midterm exams a comprehensive final exam. **THERE ARE NO MAKEUP TESTS!** However, a student may qualify to have a missing test grade be replaced with the final exam grade if the final exam grade is higher. A second missed test will be averaged as a zero. **Use of a cell phone during any exam will result in a grade of a zero.**

Homework Grades: Homework is assigned for each class day and is to be completed online through My Math Lab (MML). Each student is required to print out (or hand write) every homework assignment, work each problem on paper showing all steps, and practicing without a calculator. Students are required to input their answers into MML and submit them to get their grade for the assignment. No hand-written homework will be turned-in. **No late homework assignments will be allowed. No homework extensions will be given.**

Tutoring: Students can obtain free tutoring in room M116 in the math building on the South Plains Campus in Levelland or in Building 4 at the Reese Center. Tutoring schedules will be posted on campus. Please remember to sign in when you seek the help of a tutor in each of these places. Also, videotapes of many topics are available in 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. For online viewing, go to <http://southplainscollege.blackboard.com/> and login using “mvideos” and password “mvideos”. Click on Math – Math Videos and locate the appropriate course and the topic in which you are interested. Additional free tutorial videos are also available at the following sites: <http://patrickjmt.com/> and <http://www.khanacademy.org/>.

Attendance Policy: Attendance will be taken every class period. Students who arrive late, leave early, sleep during class, or fail to sign the attendance sheet may be counted absent. Whenever absences become excessive and, in the instructor’s opinion, minimum course objectives cannot be met due to absences, the student will be withdrawn from the course. **Any student who misses 3 consecutive classes or exceeds 5 absences throughout the semester will be administratively dropped and receive a grade of X or F.** Students wishing to drop this class must see the registrar to officially withdraw and receive a grade of W if done before the final drop date.

Classroom Civility: Students are expected to be respectful of their fellow classmates and maintain a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices **before** entering the room. The instructor reserves the right to ask a student to leave if his/her cell phone is left on and disrupts the class. Refrain from using offensive language, reading newspapers, chewing tobacco products, or otherwise being disruptive in class. Food and/or drinks are NOT allowed in the classroom.

Academic Honest: Students are expected to uphold the ideas of academic honesty. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on tests, collaborating with another student during a test, copying another student's work, using material not authorized, and plagiarism. **Use of a calculator, cell phone, or other electronic device during any in-class assignment or exam will result in a grade of zero unless specifically approved by the instructor.** Students who do not follow the academic honesty policy will receive a grade of zero for the assignment, and may be dropped from the course with an F, or face possible suspension from the college.

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 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.

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.

Beginning Algebra Tentative Fall 2016 Calendar		
Day	Date	Topics
T	30-Aug	Introduction
R	1-Sep	Sections 1.2 & 1.4 Fraction Basics/Operations on Integers
T	6-Sep	Sections 1.5 & 1.7 Operations on Rational Numbers/Exponents and Real Numbers
R	8-Sep	Sections 1.8 5.1 Simplifying Algebraic Expressions/Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
T	13-Sep	Sections 5.2 & 5.4 Exponent Laws
R	15-Sep	Sections 5.3 & 5.5 Multiplying and Dividing Polynomials
T	20-Sep	Review Day
R	22-Sep	EXAM 1 (Ch. 1, Ch. 5)
T	27-Sep	Sections 2.1,- 2.3 Linear Equations: Addition and Multiplication Properties/Solving Linear Equations Involving Fractions and Decimals
R	29-Sep	Sections 2.4 & 2.5 Word Problems - Part 1
T	4-Oct	Sections 2.6 & 2.7 Word Problems - Part 2
R	6-Oct	Section 2.8 Solving Linear Inequalities
T	11-Oct	Sections 3.1 & 3.2 Graphing Equations
R	13-Oct	Sections 3.3 & 3.4 Slope and Slope-Intercept Form
T	18-Oct	Section 3.5 Point-Slope Form of a Line
R	20-Oct	Section 3.6 Parallel and Perpendicular Lines
T	25-Oct	Review Day
R	27-Oct	EXAM 2 (Ch. 2, Ch. 3)
T	1-Nov	Sections 4.1 - 4.3 Solving Linear Systems of Equations by Graphing, Substitution, and Addition
R	3-Nov	Sections 3.7 & 4.6 Linear Inequalities in Two Variables and Systems
T	8-Nov	Section 6.1 Factoring by Grouping
R	10-Nov	Section 6.2 Factoring Monic Trinomials
T	15-Nov	Section 6.3 Factoring Non-Monic Trinomials
R	17-Nov	Section 6.4 Factoring Special Products
T	22-Nov	Section 6.5 Summary of Factoring Techniques
T	29-Nov	Section 6.6 Solving Equations by Factoring
R	1-Dec	Section 6.7 Modeling and Solving Problems with Quadratic Equations
T	6-Dec	Review Day
R	8-Dec	EXAM 3 (Ch. 4, Ch. 6)
T	13-Dec	Final Exam - 5:00pm - 7:00pm