

# South Plains College

## MATH 0315 – Beginning Algebra

{ Section 002, M W 11–12:45 pm  
{ Section 003, M W 2:30 – 4:15 pm

{ **Math Bldg., Rm. 105**  
{ **Math Bldg., Rm. 105**, respectively

**Instructor:** Ms. S. Davis  
**Office:** 103 MATH Bldg.  
**Phone:** (806) 894 – 9611 ext. 2699  
**E-mail address:**  
[sdavis@SouthPlainsCollege.edu](mailto:sdavis@SouthPlainsCollege.edu)

### Office Hours:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:30 – 11 a 1:30 – 2:30p		9:30 – 11 a	4:20 – 5:20 p (Reese)	1 – 4 p
<i>or by appointment</i>				
At the times with this designation, I will be in my office to help you. You <b>do not</b> need an appointment to come see me at these times. When you come, I will be doing something else, but I will stop and help you. I am available at other times, but please give me a courteous call before coming to make sure I am there.				

**Course Description:** Math 0315. Beginning Algebra (3:3:1). This course is designed for those students who need MATH 0320 (Intermediate Algebra) and have not had one year of high school algebra. It includes properties of signed

numbers, algebraic expressions, linear equations in one unknown and geometry. Time in math lab maybe required. This course will not satisfy graduation requirements. This course is required if testing indicates a need. (Refer to SPC catalog)

**TSI:** The Texas Success Initiative is a state program designed to ensure that all Texas institutions provide placement, personal advisement, and appropriate instruction to students to enhance their opportunities for success in their college studies. All new students entering Texas colleges and universities are required to take a placement test prior to enrolling in college-level courses, unless exempt from testing under specified state standards (i.e., scores on ACT, SAT, or TAKS). Testing will indicate whether a student possesses adequate basic college-level skills in reading, writing, and mathematics necessary to begin an undergraduate program of study. (copied from current SPC catalog)

**Text:** Elementary & Intermediate Algebra, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, by Sullivan, Struve, & Mazzarella, 2014 Prentice Hall/Pearson (ISBN: 978-0-321-88011-6)

**Supplies:** Graph paper, a ruler, (*at least a 3 in ring*) notebook, hole puncher, stapler, a staple puller, & a red pen/pencil. (If your lack of responsibility results in you asking to borrow any of the supplies from me or anyone else then there will be automatic 5 point deduction from your final grade. **Bring your supplies to class everyday!**)

**Purpose:** This course is to provide the fundamental algebraic basis that the student can use to lay a foundation for the study of Intermediate and College Algebra and other freshmen level mathematics courses.

**Attendance:** Attendance and effort are the most important activities for success in this course. Records of your attendance are maintained throughout the semester. If your lack of attendance (i.e., excessive absences) is determined by the instructor to put you at risk of failing the course, you may be dropped from the class with a F as a final grade. Excessive absences consist of two consecutive weeks or 4 cumulative days. Sleeping in class constitutes an absence. If you unfortunately happen to incur an absence, please contact the instructor either by phone or email and refer to the website **to get and attempt** the assignment before the next class. Please read the “Drops and Withdrawals” policies in the current South Plains College catalog.

**Assignment Policy:** Homework will be assigned daily. The homework assignments maybe graded periodically. **Note that the practice is required in order to more fully understand each topic and to successfully negotiate the quizzes and the tests.** **Late homework is not accepted.**

Homework, quizzes, tests, and other useful material will be kept in a notebook.

**Notebook:** You will keep a notebook which will be used as a reference and study guide. The notebook will be brought to class everyday! The following material will be placed in the notebook in the order listed:

1. Cover sheet including Name, Class, and Semester
2. Syllabus
3. Procedures
4. Assignment sheet
  - ▶ Contains all homework assignments for the semester
  - ▶ Not the actual homework assignment
  - ▶ Grade sheet (could also include)
5. Notes
6. Work
7. Quizzes
8. Tests
9. Miscellaneous

### Notebook contd.:

Each section will be separated by a labeled divider and contain the appropriate procedure page corresponding to the section. The “procedure” pages are: the *notebook procedure*, the *classroom conduct*, the “*How to Study*” *guide*, “How is College Different than High School” sheet, the *hygiene etiquette*, the *note-taking procedure*, the *homework procedure*, *classroom testing etiquette*, and the *grading policy*. All homework assignments are to be prepared by the homework procedure. The above order of the notebook does not constitute its order. Reference the notebook procedure for proper order.

\*\*To print the above material, visit my **Blackboard**. All printed material needs to be read at least once during the term of this course.\*\*

**Grading Policy:** There will be random quizzes given over the assigned homework in which no make-ups will be allowed. The total number of quizzes for the semester is unpredictable but only a portion will count as the quiz grade. Make-up quizzes will NOT be given. Worksheets may also be distributed and subjected for grading. **Late homework worksheets will not be accepted.**

There will be four tests. Any excused (notification must be made in advance) missed exam will be discussed with the instructor. The final exam will be comprehensive since the intent of this class is preparation for Intermediate Algebra and eventually, College Algebra.

The final exam can replace your lowest non-zero test grade provided that it is greater than the lowest non-zero test grade (the exception is the Honest Effort Rule (**H.E.R.**) policy).

**Make-up Policy:** There is no automatic provision for making up exams. Only under extreme circumstances (e.g., death in the family or hospitalization) will make-up exams be given, and these circumstances must be documented. If at all possible, the instructor should be notified prior to missing an exam. If you happen to miss an exam, a grade of **0** will be administered, and under the **H.E.R.**, this missed exam of grade **0** will not be replaced by the final exam even if the final exam is greater.

### Grading Scale:

Quizzes: 35%	A: 90 and above	
Tests: 45%	B: 80 - 89	D: 60 – 69
Final: 20%	C: 70 - 79	F: 59 or below

**Borderline Grades:** These grades will be evaluated with regard to attendance and mature conduct in class.

### Critical Dates:

<i>Sept 5</i>	Labor Day	<i>Nov 10</i>	WEB Pre-registration for Spring 2017
<i>Oct 14</i>	FALL Break	<b>Final Exam</b>	
<i>Nov 17</i>	Last day to drop	<i>Dec 12</i>	<b>002</b> (10:15 – 12:15 p, Monday)
<i>Nov 23 - 25</i>	Thanksgiving	<i>Dec 14</i>	<b>003</b> (3:15 – 5:15 p, Wednesday)

**Study:** You should normally spend approximately 2-3 hours outside of class in study for each hour of lecture. Try to study the assigned lesson as soon after the class meets as is possible. In your all possible effort, try not to get behind on the homework!

**Tutoring:** Free tutoring is available in the room 116 of the Mathematics-Engineering Building. For times and tutor names, please refer to posted tutor schedules in the math building or visit my website.

**Videotapes:** Videotapes for many topics in this course are available in the Math. Department AVT lab (Rm. 116 of the Levelland campus). The web address for the online videos is as follows (<http://spc.blackboard.com/webct/entryPageIns.dowebct>). For username and password, please use *mvideos*. For the AVT lab on the Levelland campus, students are allowed to check the tapes out, view them in the office, or duplicate them with the equipment available in Rm. 116.

## Student Responsibilities:

- Attend class and be aware of announcements made in class.
- Work homework problems early enough to seek help if needed.
- Form study groups.
- Read and know the attendance policy.
- Attend math lab sessions.
- **\*\* Please, turn off cell phones and pagers during class! \*\***
  - **If the instructor determines that activation of a cell phone, pager, PDA, Ipod, laptop, or any electronic device interrupts the lecture or classroom discussion or impedes the progress of any student then the instructor may ask the student to leave the class temporarily or permanently.**
- **No technologic devices such as cell phones, PDA's, etc. are to be used during tests or in-class quizzes.**
- **Do not dress for the beach or for bed.**
- **Follow the classroom policy, no food or drink allowed in the classroom if posted.**
- **In accordance to campus policy, no tobacco products are to be consumed in class.**
- **You will obtain your final grade for the class through MySPC and CampusConnect.**

**Cell Phone Policy:** All students will, during each class period and for its duration, place and keep their cell phone, provided that they are at the present time in possession of said device, face-down in the right-hand corner and on the top surface of their desk. If a student's cell phone activates and/or the student engages in text messaging during class at anytime during the semester, the student, by the instructor's discretion, could be permanently dismissed from the class for the remainder of the semester. If a student's cell is activated during class and/or the student engages in text messaging determined by the instructor, and **the student chose not to place their phone on top of their desk as mentioned above** then the student will be dismissed from the class by the instructor permanently.

**Academic Misconduct:** Complete honesty is required from students in all facets of course work including homework assignments, tests, and the final exam. See the South Plains College Catalog for more detail.

**Sanctions for Cheating or Plagiarizing:** A grade of "F" in the course will be assigned to any student caught cheating or plagiarizing; additional sanctions may also be considered. Students are responsible for understanding the meanings of the words cheating and plagiarizing.

**Special Requests:** If you happen to become **ill** during the semester, please respect your instructor and your classmates by making your best effort to prevent contamination of the rest of the class including the instructor.

**Questions:** I invite all your questions **except** the following: **Sanctions for Cheating or Plagiarizing:** A grade of "F" in the course will be assigned to any student caught cheating or plagiarizing; additional sanctions may also be considered. Students are responsible for understanding the meanings of the words cheating and plagiarizing.

1. I wasn't able to make it to class. Did I miss anything? (Yes.)
2. Is this going to be on the test? (Perhaps, not directly, but if the ideas were not important, I would not be discussing them in class.)
3. Do you have the tests graded? (I put forth my best effort to have the tests graded so as to return them the next class session, however, there are times due to uncontrollable factors that this may not be possible.)

**Objectives:** Upon completion of this course and obtaining a passing grade, the student should reflect mastery of the course objectives. These course objectives are the following:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| a.) Add, subtract, multiply and divide real numbers. (1.5)  | b.) Use the order of operations to simplify an expression. (1.7)    |
| c.) Simplify algebraic expressions. (1.8)   | d.) Solve linear equations. (2.1, 2.2, 2.3)                         |
| e.) Translate and solve word problems. (2.5, 2.6, 2.7)  | f.) Solve linear inequalities. (2.8)                                |
| g.) Graph equations in two variables by the intercept method and the slope intercept method. (3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4) |   |
| h.) Evaluate expressions using exponent rules. (5.2, 5.4)   | i.) Add, subtract, multiply and divide polynomials. (5.1, 5.3, 5.5) |
| j.) Factor polynomials, (6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5)   | k.) Solve quadratic equations by factoring. (6.6)                   |

**Diversity:** 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.

**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.

		<b>Course Outline</b>	
		This schedule is tentative and subjective to change. Changes will be announced in class.	
<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics and Sections Covered</b>	
<b>1</b>	8/29, Mon	<b>Introduction, Misc.</b> 1.5 Arithmetic with Rational Numbers	
	8/31, Wed	1.7 Exponents & Order of Operations	
<b>2</b>	9/5, Mon	<i>Labor Day</i>	
	9/7, Wed	1.8 Simplifying Algebraic Expressions	
<b>3</b>	9/12, Mon	2.1 Solving Linear Equations Part 1 2.2 Solving Linear Equations Part 2	
	9/14, Wed	2.3 Fractions & Decimals in Linear Equations	
<b>4</b>	9/19, Mon	<i>Review</i>	
	9/21, Wed	Test 1 (Ch 1 & 2.1 – 2.3)	
<b>5</b>	9/26, Mon	2.5 Direct Translation Problems	
	9/28, Wed	2.6 Percent Problems	
<b>6</b>	10/3, Mon	2.7 Geometry & Uniform Motion	
	10/5, Wed	2.8 Linear Inequalities in One Variable	
<b>7</b>	10/10, Mon	Test 2 (2.5 – 2.8)	
	10/12, Wed	3.1 The Rectangular Coordinate System 3.2 Graphing Equations	
<b>8</b>	10/17, Mon	3.3 Slope of a Line 3.4 Slope-Intercept Form of a Line	
	10/19, Wed	5.1 <i>Adding/Subtracting Polynomials</i>	
<b>9</b>	10/24, Mon	Test 3 (Ch 3)	
	10/26, Wed	5.2 Multiplying Monomials	
<b>10</b>	10/31, Mon	5.3 Multiplying Polynomials	
	11/2, Wed	5.4 Dividing Monomials	
<b>11</b>	11/7, Mon	5.5 Dividing Polynomials	
	11/9, Wed	6.1 <i>Greatest Common Factor (GCF) &amp; Grouping</i>	
<b>12</b>	11/14, Mon	Test 4 (Ch 5)	
	11/16, Wed	6.2 Factoring Trinomials Part 1	
<b>13</b>	11/21, Mon	6.3 Factoring Trinomials Part 2	
	11/23, Wed	<i>Thanksgiving</i>	
<b>14</b>	11/28, Mon	6.4 Factoring Special Products	
	11/30, Wed	6.6 Solving Equations by Factoring	
<b>15</b>	12/5, Mon	6.5 A Review of Factoring	
	12/7, Wed	<i>Review for FINAL</i>	
<b>Final(s)</b>	12/12	Section 002	Monday, 10:15 – 12:15p
	12/14	Section 003	Wednesday, 3:15 – 5:15p

MATH 0315 (3:3:1)  
BEGINNING ALGEBRA

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

Division of Arts & Sciences

*South Plains College*

FALL 2016

Shirley Davis