MATH 1111 College Algebra — Fall 2009
Section FF — MWF 9:00–9:50 AM — University Hall, Room UH241

Instructor: Dr. Scott
Email: rscott5@aug.edu
Office Telephone: 706-737-1672
Office Hours: MWF 8:15-8:45 AM, or after class, or by appointment, Allgood Hall office E348

Course goals/objectives: At the completion of this course the student will be able to:

- Understand the real, rational, and complex number systems
- Solve linear quadratic, exponential and logarithmic equations
- Use the laws of exponents and logarithms
- Use algebra as a language for expressing problems
- Use algebraic methods for solving those problems

Course Description: A study of the real number system, exponents, equations and inequalities, functions, systems of linear equations, linear programming, polynomial, exponential, and logarithmic functions. (Credit will not be given for both MATH 1101 and MATH 1111.)

Prerequisite: 2 years of high school algebra or the equivalent

Required Text and Required Calculator and Other Materials:

- Sullivan, Michael, *College Algebra*, Third Custom Edition for Augusta State University
- A scientific calculator (i.e., one with logarithms and exponential functions in it)
- Student's Solutions Manual (optional) [1]
- Notebook paper, pencils, etc. (Tests and quizzes must be completed in pencil, not in ink.)

Organization of the Course: We will cover just about all of Chapters 1 through 5 as well as part of Chapter 7 in the textbook, with an emphasis on homework / problem solving. The attached calendar shows by section what I plan to cover in each class session. Note that there are several "Review Test" sessions; those are designed to help you get ready for the upcoming test unless they are needed to catch up to schedule if the class has fallen behind.

Assignments: College courses generally require two to three hours of preparation for each hour of class time. I will be assigning homework every day except days before announced tests. Since this course meets three times a week for one hour each time, you will need to budget 6-9 hours a week to study, to review your class notes, and to complete your homework. (This means time free from distractions like television or conversations with others on unrelated topics.) For some of you, 9 hours a week outside of class will still not be enough to get everything done — which means that you will need to put in more time than that in order to learn the material. I give "Open Notes, Open Homework, Closed Book" quizzes, so keep your completed homework assignments in an organized manner. This will also enable you to review for tests and for the Final Exam. I generally do not collect and grade homework, but I will be happy to go over yours during my office hours. My quizzes will be very similar to (and usually exactly the same as) assigned homework problems, so doing the homework ensures you can succeed at the quizzes. And my tests (which are not "open notes") are also very similar to the homework, and test count as the majority of your course grade.

The bottom line here is that completing homework is just like physical exercise — it's the only way to get in shape and, once there, to stay in shape. Like other exercise, mathematics is not a spectator

[1] There are several other supplementary materials for sale at the bookstore for this course. The Student's Solutions Manual is particularly valuable in that it has worked out solutions to all of the odd-numbered exercises and all of the skill set problems from the text book. However, I know that most of you are working within a budget, and these materials are not cheap. So they are not required for my class. Buy them, and get your money's worth by actually using them, if you can afford it!

sport. Active participation is required. Do your homework every day. Don't let yourself fall behind, it's nearly impossible to catch back up again. If class time permits, ask questions about homework you find difficult; if class time doesn't allow your question to be answered, then come see me during my office hours. Helping you to learn is my job, it's not an interruption.

Attendance policy: Absences are discussed in the ASU Catalog. Excused absences include documented incapacitating illness (as opposed to just "not feeling well"), official representation of the University, death of a close relative, religious holidays, and jury duty. University policy is that the maximum number of absences (excused or otherwise) allowed without the student incurring a penalty is 10%. What the penalty would be depends on the circumstances, but usually it involves being dropped from the course with a failing grade. Coming in significantly late "counts as ½ an absence" in this context.[2] Because MATH 1111 meets three days a week, there are 45 class sessions not including the Final Exam — so 10% works out to be 4.5 absences, which we'll round up to 5 absences (this is a math course, after all, but it's hard to talk about half an absence). Per the next section, I drop your lowest three quiz grades — and if you're not there to take a quiz (excused absence or not) that becomes one of the grades that I drop. Mathematics is a building block course; what we go over in one lesson is very likely prerequisite knowledge for the next lesson, and for the one after that. What you learn in one lecture may well make material in the next lecture much easier for you, so if you miss that lecture ... well, you can see where this is leading.

What is the message here? Class is where I can help you to learn the material. You need to pass this course. Do the homework. Come to class. Don't be late.

Grading Weights:

- 50% for the chapter tests. I will give four tests but only your top three test scores will be counted (so if you miss one chapter test, the other three will count).
- 15% for quizzes. The lowest three grades will be dropped per the above.
- 35% for the Final Exam.

Grading Scale: On the Final Exam, you must work at least 9 problems correctly (out of the 30 problems) in order to pass this course. In addition, you must have an overall course percentage of 60% (including the Final Exam with the weight shown above) in order to pass.

Here is the grading scale I will follow for tests, quizzes, and the Final Exam itself, for grades above a 60% (below that is an "F"). Note that I round grades off to the nearest integer percentage.

A	90-100%	C	70-79%
B	80-89%	D	60-69%

Attendance Bonus: In a sort of "reverse make-up" mode, if you have at most two absences (excused or otherwise) during the entire semester, then you get an extra 2% added to your overall final grade for the course.

Academic Honesty: Academic Honesty is also discussed in the ASU catalog. Any cheating on a pop quiz or on a test will result in a zero ("0") for that quiz or test, and that particular zero will not be dropped in grade calculations. There may be other sanctions as well, per University policy. Cheating demeans you. I know that grades are important to you, but your reputation is even more important. Cheating isn't worth the risk, especially to your reputation but also to your grade. Don't go there.

Special Circumstances: If you have a physical, psychological and/or learning disability which might affect your performance in this class, please contact the Coordinator at the ASU Office of Disability Services as soon as possible. The Coordinator will determine appropriate accommodations based on medical documentation.

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[2] Arriving late is always better than not arriving at all. If you arrive late, sneak in quietly. Being "significantly late" is a matter of judgment, and has to do with how late, and how often.

Cell Phones and Pagers: Please turn them off (not "mosquito" ring tone and not just "vibrate" or "silent ring" but really "off") during class. If your employer requires you to be on call during class, please inform me in writing and we'll work something out.

- Any use of a cell phone, pager, or palm pilot during a test or quiz will result in a score of zero ("0").
- If you absolutely need to receive or make a call during class hours, please leave the classroom. Expect to be asked to leave the classroom if this happens unexpectedly.

On Line Assistance: There are two on-line help systems available to you. Neither is my personal specialty, but they may be valuable at any rate.

- There is a system called "MyMathLab" that I will make available to you by the end of the first week of class. Please go to this link to get started: http://www.aug.edu/~dholt/InformationforMyMathLab.htm
- Calculator tutorials are also available on line. You should find them here: http://education.ti.com/studentzone/getahead/tutorials.html

About this class: Success in this course demands hard work, every class day. The key to succeeding in this course is completing and understanding the homework. If you have trouble completing the homework and don't take the time to overcome that trouble, then you will also have trouble with the quizzes, the tests, and ultimately with the Final Exam. So if you do encounter homework difficulties, get help early and as often as it takes for you to understand the material thoroughly. If you need help, use the Math Lab and let me know what kind of help you need.

If you are not enjoying the class, one of us is doing something wrong. Please see me and we'll figure out which one it is and try to fix it.

Fall Semester 2009

MONDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY
17 **August** (1) Section R2	19 (2) Section R4	21 (3) Section R5
24 (4) Sections R6 & 4.6	26 (5) Section R7	28 (6) Review
31 (7) ***** TEST #1 *****	2 **September** (8) Section R8	4 (9) Sections 1.1
7 **HOLIDAY** Labor Day	9 (10) Section 1.2	11 (11) Section 1.3
14 (12) Section 1.4	16 (13) Section 1.5	18 (14) Section 1.6
21 (15) Section 4.5	23 (16) Review	25 (17) ***** TEST #2 *****
28 (18) Section 1.7 -start	30 (19) Section 1.7 - complete	2 **October** (20) Section 2.1
5 (21) Section 2.2	7 (22) Section 2.3	9 (23) Section 2.4
12 (24) Section 2.5	14 (25) Section 2.7	16 (26) Section 3.1
19 (27) Sections 3.2 & 3.4	21 (28) Review	23 (29) ***** TEST #3 *****
26 (30) Section 4.1	28 (31) Section 5.1	30 (32) Section 5.2
2 **November** (33) Section 5.3	4 (34) Section 5.4	6 (35) Section 5.5
9 (36) Section 5.6	11 (37) Section 5.7	13 (38) Section 7.1
16 (39) Section 7.7	18 (40) Section 7.8	20 (41) Review
23 (42) ***** TEST #4 *****	25 Fall Break	27 Fall Break
30 (43) Review	2 **December** (44) Review	**FINAL EXAM** **Thursday December 10** **3:30 PM**

Thanksgiving Week