

South Plains College
MATH 0315 - BEGINNING ALGEBRA
Spring 2017- Course Syllabus

Instructor: César Sánchez

Office: M110 (math building)

Phone: (806)716-2740

E-Mail: csanchez@southplainscollege.edu

Class alerts by text: enter this number 81010 Text this message @47heb9

Textbook: Elementary and Intermediate Algebra by Sullivan, Struve, and Mazzarella 3rd edition College Course id: sanchez74472

Course Description: MATH 0315. BEGINNING ALGEBRA.(3:3:1) This course is designed for those students who need MATH 0320 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 a math lab is required. This course will not satisfy graduation requirements. This course is required if testing indicates a need. (from SPC catalog)

Core Objectives:

Communication Skills:

- Develop, interpret, and express ideas through written communication
- Develop, interpret, and express ideas through oral communication
- Develop, interpret, and express ideas through visual communication

Critical Thinking:

- Generate and communicate ideas by combining, changing, and reapplying existing information
- Gather and assess information relevant to a question
- Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information

Empirical and Quantitative Competency Skills:

- Manipulate and analyze numerical data and arrive at an informed conclusion
- Manipulate and analyze observable facts and arrive at an informed conclusion

Course Objectives: Successful completion of this course should reflect mastery of the following objectives:

(Chapter and section numbers are indicated in parentheses.)

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. Evaluate expressions using exponent rules. (5.2, 5.4)
9. Add, subtract, multiply and divide polynomials. (5.1, 5.3, 5.5)
10. Factor polynomials, (6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5)
11. Solve quadratic equations by factoring. (6.6)

Expectations:

- Read the syllabus.
- Attend class, arrive on time, do your homework, turn in homework ON TIME, and be prepared to participate.
- **TURN OFF and PUT AWAY** all cell phones and mp3 players when you enter the classroom and keep off for the duration of the class. Do **NOT** send or receive text messages during class.
- Maintain a classroom environment that is conducive to learning.
- Foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. For more detail, see page 23 of the South Plains College General Catalog.

Attendance: Record of your attendance will be maintained throughout the semester. You may be dropped from this course with a grade of X or F if you exceed three absences throughout the semester. **Absences are not classified as 'excused' or 'unexcused'.**

TSI: The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) is a state program designed to ensure that all Texas institutions provide placement testing, 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 the current SPC catalog)

Graphing Calculators are not permitted in this course

Grading:

Homework 20%
Quiz (lab) 15%
Exams 50%
Final Exam 15%

Grading Scale:

A 90-100
B 80-89
C 70-79
D 60-69
F 59 or below

A grade of C (70) or better is required to advance to the next course. Although your grade in this course will not be used in calculating your GPA, your grade is used to determine academic status for financial aid. **This course and its grade will be recorded on your official transcript.**

Homework:

• **All homework is online and due at midnight before the next class period. No late homework is accepted for any reason.**

Tutoring: Free tutoring and video tapes are available in Room 116 of the Math Building. Digital versions of these tutorial videos can be viewed on your personal computer. There is a link for these videos on blackboard <http://spc.blackboard.com>

LAB:

Attendance is mandatory. We will meet in room 116 after class.

Exams: There will be 4 unit exams and a comprehensive departmental final exam. Dates for the exams are given on the calendar. If for any reason you are unable to take an exam at the designated time you must contact me prior to class time. Make-up exams will be given at the discretion of the instructor. Any person who knows they will be absent on a day of an exam should make arrangements to take the exam at an EARLIER date.

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.

4.1.1.1 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.

4.1.1.2 Disabilities Statement

Levelland Campus – Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance to federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office in the Student Services Building, 806-716-2577.

Reese Center and the Byron Martin Advanced Technology Center (ATC) –Rooms 809 and 811, Reese Center Building 8, 806-716-4675.

“Insanity is doing the same thing, over and over again, but expecting different results.”

~Albert Einstein