

South Plains College
Common Course Syllabus: MATH 0315
Revised December 2019

Department: Mathematics, Engineering, and Computer Science

Discipline: Mathematics

Course Number: MATH 0315

Course Title: Beginning Algebra

Available Formats: conventional and internet

Campuses: Levelland, Reese, Plainview, and Lubbock Center

Course Description: This course is designed for those students who need MATH 0314 or MATH 0324 and did not score a minimum of 340 on the TSIA. 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. The course is required if testing indicates a need.

Prerequisite: Maximum score of 339 on TSIA without an ABE score or a successful completion of NCBM 0105.

Credit: 3 **Lecture:** 3 **Lab:** 1

Textbook/ Supplies: Please see the instructor's course information sheet.

This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement: No

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course and receiving a passing grade, the student will be able to:

1. Add, subtract, multiply and divide real numbers.
2. Use the order of operations to simplify an expression.
3. Simplify algebraic expressions.
4. Solve linear equations.
5. Translate and solve word problems.
6. Solve linear inequalities.
7. Graph equations in two variables by the intercept method and the slope intercept method.
8. Evaluate expressions using exponent rules.
9. Add, subtract, multiply and divide polynomials.
10. Factor polynomials.
11. Solve quadratic equations by factoring.

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment: None

Course Evaluation: There will be a comprehensive departmental final exam given by all instructors.

Attendance Policy: Attendance and effort are the most important activities for success in this course. Records of your attendance are maintained throughout the semester. Five (5) absences, **for any reason**, are allotted to the student for the semester. Tardies count as one-half (1/2) of an absence. Tardies will be applied for consistently being late to class, as deemed by the instructor and leaving class early. If this number is exceeded, the instructor has the right to drop you with a grade of F or an X, depending on their discretion.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
4. Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
4. Entering an office or building to obtain an unfair advantage;
5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records;
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

Student Code of Conduct Policy: Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

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.

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 Disability 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 Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

Nondiscrimination Policy: South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement: If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To [activate](#) accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact the Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or [email cgilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

Campus Concealed Carry: Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations and Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the Campus Carry page at: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php> Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

SPC Bookstore Price Match Guarantee Policy: If you find a lower price on a textbook, the South Plains College bookstore will match that price. The difference will be given to the student on a bookstore gift certificate! The gift certificate can be spent on anything in the store.

If students have already purchased textbooks and then find a better price later, the South Plains College bookstore will price match through the first week of the semester. The student must have a copy of the receipt and the book has to be in stock at the competition at the time of the price match.

The South Plains College bookstore will happily price match BN.com & books on Amazon noted as *ships from and sold by Amazon.com*. Online marketplaces such as *Other Sellers* on Amazon, Amazon's Warehouse Deals, *fulfilled by Amazon*, BN.com Marketplace, and peer-to-peer pricing are not eligible. They will price match the exact textbook, in the same edition and format, including all accompanying materials, like workbooks and CDs.

A textbook is only eligible for price match if it is in stock on a competitor's website at time of the price match request. Additional membership discounts and offers cannot be applied to the student's refund.

Price matching is only available on in-store purchases. Digital books, access codes sold via publisher sites, rentals and special orders are not eligible. Only one price match per title per customer is allowed.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.

Beginning Algebra
Math 0315.271 MW 8:30 – 10:15 Math 0315.272 TH 3:30 - 5:15
Instructor Information – Spring 2020

Instructor: Gina Becker, BSE, M Ed **Phone:** 806.716.4684
Email: gbecker@southplainscollege.edu **Office:** LC 125G (Reese 223D)

Office Hours

Monday*	Tuesday*	Wednesday*	Thursday*	Friday*
8:15 – 8:30	10:45 – 11:00	8:15 – 8:30	10:15 – 11:00	8:15 – 10:15
10:15 – 11:00	12:45 – 1:00	10:15 – 11:00	12:45 – 1:00	
12:45 – 1:00	3:00– 3:30	12:45 – 1:00	3:00– 3:30	<i>*or by appointment</i>
4:15 – 4:45	5:15 – 5:30	4:15 – 4:45	5:15 – 5:30	

Textbook: Knewton Access: You will be able to access and pay for the course when you log in to Blackboard using your SPC Student ID and password. You may also purchase Knewton access at the SPC Bookstore at Reese Center or online at www.knewton.com. There is no physical textbook for this course. The access kit online sells for approximately \$40.

Supplies: Pencils, paper, straightedge, and graph paper (available to print from Blackboard). **A basic, non-graphing, non-scientific calculator may be used in this course after Exam 1.**

Course Expectations: Attend class, be on time, do homework, and be prepared to participate. Turn off and put away all electronic devices when you enter the classroom and keep off for the duration of the class.

Assignments and Grading:

Homework assignments will be given daily. For best results, work each problem on lined notebook paper. Enter your answer. If you are unsure of the answer, select the **More Instruction** button. **Each assignment is due before the following class.** Any incomplete assignment will receive partial credit. Each homework assignment is worth 0.3 points. Homework assignments may be submitted up to 2 days late for half credit.

Quizzes will be given weekly on non-exam weeks and no makeup quizzes will be offered. Each quiz is worth 1 point. Missing a quiz will result in 0 points for that quiz.

Exams: Your course grade will include four exams. Each exam will be worth 15 points. The final comprehensive exam will be worth 20 points. Your final exam grade will take the place of your lowest exam grade, if it is a higher score and you have fewer than 3 zeroes. *(You will be able to correct one exam. Corrections will add 50% of their point value to your grade. Corrections are due on or before the final exam date.)*

Your final point value will determine your letter grade for this class and will be determined by the following scale:

A - 90-100	Homework	13
B - 80-89	Quizzes	7
C - 70-79	Exams	60
D - 60-69	Final Exam	20
F - 0-59	Total	<hr/> 100 points

Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Monday		Wednesday	
1	January 13	Introduction and Language of Algebra 1.1.-1.2	January 15	Operations with Integers 1.3-1.5
2	January 20	MLK Holiday	January 22	Operations with Fractions, Part 1 1.6 1.7
3	January 27	Operations with Fractions, Part 2 1.8 1.9	January 29	More Fractions, Decimals and Distributive Property 1.10 1.11 1.12
4	February 3	Add and Subtract Polynomials 1.13	February 5	Exam 1
5	February 10	Solving Equations 2.1 2.2	February 12	Solving Linear Equations 2.3 2.4 2.5 2.6
6	February 17	Solving Linear Inequalities 2.7 2.8	February 19	Multiplying Polynomials 3.1 3.2 3.3
7	February 24	Dividing Polynomials 3.4 3.5 3.6	February 26	Factoring, Part 1. GCF, Factor by Grouping, Leading Coefficient of 1 4.1 4.2
8	March 2	Exam 2	March 4	Factoring, Part 2, Leading Coefficient other than 1 and Special Products 4.3 4.4
9	March 9	Solving Quadratic Equations 4.5 4.6	March 11	Intro to Graphing 5.1 5.2 5.3
	March 16	Spring Break	March 18	Spring Break
10	March 23	Slope and Equations of Lines 5.4 5.5 5.6	March 25	Review
11	March 30	Exam 3	April 1	Parallel and Perpendicular Lines and Intercepts 5.7 5.8 5.9
12	April 6	Solving Systems of Equations by Graphing 5.10	April 8	Solving Systems of Equations by Substitution and Addition 5.11
13	April 13	No Class	April 15	Review
14	April 20	Exam 4	April 22	Application Problems, Part 1 5.12 2.9 2.10
15	April 27	Application Problems, Part 2 2.11-2.12	April 29	Review
16	May 4	Final Exam 8:00 – 10:00		

Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Tuesday		Thursday	
1	January 14	Introduction and Language of Algebra 1.1.-1.2	January 16	Operations with Integers 1.3-1.4
2	January 21	Operations with Integers Operations with Fractions, Part 1 1.5 - 1.6	January 23	Operations with Fractions, Parts 1 and 2 1.7 - 1.8
3	January 28	Operations with Fractions, Part 2, 1.9-1.10	January 30	More Fractions, Decimals and Distributive Property 1.11 1.12
4	February 4	Add and Subtract Polynomials 1.13	February 6	Exam 1
5	February 11	Solving Equations 2.1 2.2	February 13	Solving Linear Equations 2.3 2.4 2.5 2.6
6	February 18	Solving Linear Inequalities 2.7 2.8	February 20	Multiplying Polynomials 3.1 3.2 3.3
7	February 25	Dividing Polynomials 3.4 3.5 3.6	February 27	Factoring, Part 1. GCF, Factor by Grouping, Leading Coefficient of 1 4.1 4.2
8	March 3	Exam 2	March 5	Factoring, Part 2, Leading Coefficient other than 1 and Special Products 4.3 4.4
9	March 10	Solving Quadratic Equations 4.5 4.6	March 12	Intro to Graphing 5.1 5.2 5.3
	March 17	Spring Break	March 19	Spring Break
10	March 24	Slope and Equations of Lines 5.4 5.5 5.6	March 26	Review
11	March 31	Exam 3	April 2	Parallel and Perpendicular Lines and Intercepts 5.7 5.8
12	April 7	Intercepts 5.9	April 9	Solving Systems of Equations by Graphing 5.10
13	April 14	Solving Systems of Equations by Substitution and Addition 5.11	April 16	Review
14	April 21	Exam 4	April 23	Application Problems, Part 1 5.12 2.9 2.10
15	April 28	Application Problems, Part 2 2.11-2.12	April 30	Review
16			May 7	Final Exam 1:00 – 3:00