

Department of Mathematics & Statistics

COLLEGE ALGEBRA

MAT 140 – CRN 11663

Course Section: 6 – Credit Hours: 4

SPRING 2011 – Course Syllabus

Meeting: M T W R 1:30–2:20 PM; FH 301

Instructor: Dr. Donald Adongo, FH 6A-7

Contact: donald.adongo@murraystate.edu, 809-2490

Office Hours: M W 9:00-10:30 AM and by appointment

Website: <http://campus.murraystate.edu/academic/faculty/donald.adongo>

I Title

COLLEGE ALGEBRA

II Catalog Description

Course develops and extends the students basic algebra concepts and problem-solving skills in the context of functions, models, and applications. Topics include exponents and radicals, graphing, setting up and solving equations in linear, quadratic, and other forms, systems of equations, and operations on functions. Properties and applications of linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions are studied. Prerequisite: ACT math standard score of at least 20 or MAT 105. A student may not receive credit for MAT 140 and 130 or 150. (MAT 140 in combination with MAT 145 will substitute for MAT 150.)

III Purpose

The purpose of this course is to provide a firm grasp of the function, to develop a basic understanding of some 'simple' functions, and to use this knowledge to solve the associated equations.

IV Course Objectives

Students will

- Demonstrate a theoretical, operational, and graphic understanding of functions including polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic.

- Analyze and solve application problems.
- Use the graphics calculator for enhancement.
- Represent equations graphically through the use of graphing utility, and to integrate the algebraic and graphic interpretation of these concepts.
- Appreciate logarithms for solving unconventional equations.
- Solve system of linear equations and some applied problems.
- Understand the basic matrix operations and use them to solve systems of linear equations.

V Content Outline

In this course we will cover the following materials from the textbook. The number of class meetings per chapter may vary from section to section.

- Chapter 0: Prerequisites and Review [Sections 0.2 – 0.6]
- Chapter 1: Equations, and Inequalities [Sections 1.1 – 1.4, 1.7]
- Chapter 2: Graphs [Sections 2.1 – 2.4]
- Chapter 3: Functions and Their Graphs [Sections 3.1 – 3.6]
- Chapter 4: Polynomial and Rational Functions [Sections 4.1, 4.2, 4.6]
- Chapter 5: Exponential and Logarithmic Functions [Sections 5.1 – 5.5]
- Chapter 9: Systems of Linear Equations and Inequalities [Sections 9.1 – 9.2]

VI Instructional Activities

A portion of most class periods will be spent discussing new material and working examples from this material as a class, another portion of most class periods will be spent addressing questions about the previous day's material. There is no need to be formal or to raise your hand to ask questions. Feel free to just ask, whether I am explaining a problem or introducing new material.

There is no need to feel shy about asking questions; that is the purpose of the class. Those in the class who do not ask questions do not necessarily know more than you do, they might be shy about asking questions, or they might not be aware of what they do not know because they have not read the sections or worked any problems.

VII Calculators

A graphing calculator is required. The preferred calculator is one in either the TI-83 or TI-84 family of calculators.

VIII Resources

No outside texts or materials are required. However, occasionally handouts will be given to aid in the understanding and organization of the material. If you miss a class period, it is your responsibility to get a copy of any item handed out that day.

IX Grading Procedures

Your grade will be based on EXAM grades, HOMEWORK grades, PARTICIPATION grades, and the FINAL EXAM. Sixty percent of the course grade will come from 4 major exams (each exam counts 15 percent of the grade) and twenty percent of the course grade will come from the final exam. The homework grade will contribute 13 percent while the participation grade is worth 7 percent of the course grade. The grading scale will be:

% Points (x)	90 - 100	$80 \leq x < 90$	$70 \leq x < 80$	$60 \leq x < 70$	$0 \leq x < 60$
Grade	A	B	C	D	E

Exams: The Exams will test your comprehension of concepts and skills not covered on a previous exam. Exams may contain both problem-solving questions and essay questions. Exams occur for everyone (to be fair to everyone) on the scheduled date. Sometimes, however, extenuating circumstances do exist. If you absolutely must miss an exam, you are to stop by or call me (or leave a message with the office if I am not in when you call) before the exam to tell me why you cannot be at the exam. In addition, you must complete the "missed exam form" (see the course website) within one week. If you do not, you will get a zero on that exam with no opportunity to make it up. An excused missed exam will be made up in my office within two weeks (an extension may be granted in rare cases), with the grade to be determined as explained at that time. Our four semester exams will be **February 10, March 10, April 7** and **April 28**.

Final: The Final will be a comprehensive exam covering any material addressed that semester. The Final exam will be on **Thursday, May 12th at 1:30 p.m.** in **FH 301**.

Homework: Homework will be assigned at the beginning of each section and will also be listed on the course website. Homework will be collected weekly. (**No Late Homework**). Homework must be completed in pencil, separate from your notes, and on loose-leaf paper or paper without rough edges. **Staple** your papers together if you have used more than one sheet other wise your homework **will not be accepted**. Your name and class meeting time should be written on the top right part of the first page.

Participation: Each day's discussion of new material depends on vigorous participation on your part. During the semester you will have to work out on the board a total of twenty (20) problems. Each problem will be worth 5 points. The problems have to be picked from the assigned homework in the immediate past class meeting. Only one problem may be solved per class meeting and this will take place at the beginning of class.

The value of board presentations depend upon basic familiarity with the topic, and naturally, your participation might be limited by your attendance. See attendance policy below.

Important Grade-dates: The last day to drop a course without receiving a grade (or a W) is Thursday, January 20 th. The last day to change from Audit to Credit is Thursday, January 20 th. The last day to drop individual courses and receive a grade of "W" is Monday, April 4 th. Students who withdraw from all classes from Tuesday, April 5 th – Friday, April 29 th will receive a 'WP' or a 'WE'. The last day to change from Credit to Audit is Monday, April 4 th, if you qualify for an Audit. (See the Audit policy below.)

Auditing: To Audit the course you need my permission. You will be expected to participate in all tests and assignments with a course average of at least 25%, and you will be expected to attend with no more than 4 absences for the whole semester. If you switch to 'Audit' in mid-semester, you must meet all of the requirements of an ordinary auditor (mentioned above). In addition, you may not miss more than 7% of the remaining class periods and you may not have more than 4 absences for the entire semester. Thus, if you have already missed 5 or more class periods, you may not change to 'Audit.' Failure to meet any of these after being granted an Audit will result in the grade 'Au' being changed to an 'E.'

X Attendance Policy

If you miss class you are responsible for obtaining the day's notes and assignments. While you are not graded on class attendance, you are expected to attend every class period and your grade will suffer (indirectly) if you do not attend. If you miss four or fewer days (or do not miss at all) this semester, I will drop your two lowest homework scores. To level the playing field between those who must miss classes because of MSU and those who do not, the only kind of absence which will not be counted in this regard is a university-required absence. Thus, anything else (for instance, being sick, going on a job interview, taking care of a sick relative, etc.) will count as one of these absences. See the MSU policy on attendance in the current Catalog: (online at <http://www.murraystate.edu/provost/catalogs/010507.html#Policies>) Note the following provisions on arriving late to class or leaving early:

- (a) Every two tardies (arriving late) will count as an absence.
- (b) Leaving class early will count as an absence unless you provide me with a reason in advance.

Your participation grade can be no more than 1.1 *your percentage of class attendance.

Holidays: We will not have class from Monday March 14 through 18 (Spring Break).

XI Academic Honesty

Cheating and plagiarism (submitting another person's material as one's own, or doing work for another person which will receive academic credit) are all impermissible. This includes

- 1) the use of unauthorized notes on an exam,
- 2) looking at the exam of another or allowing another to look at your exam,
- 3) taking an exam for another or having another take an exam for you,
- 4) telling others the contents of an exam they have not yet taken or soliciting from others the contents of an exam which you have not taken, and
- 5) copying the contents of another's take-home assignment or allowing another to copy the contents of your take-home assignment (this does not include working together, with mutual understanding, on a take-home assignment).

The result of non-premeditated cheating (i.e. (2) or (5)) will be a zero for that assignment. The result of premeditated cheating (i.e. plagiarism or (1), (3), or (4)) will result in a grade of 'E' for the course. See the MSU policy on Academic Honesty in the current Catalog: (online at <http://www.murraystate.edu/provost/catalogs/010507.html#Policies>)

XII Texts and references

Algebra & Trigonometry, Second Edition, by Cynthia Young. John Wiley & Sons, Inc. ISBN: 978-0-470-22273-7

XIII Prerequisites

ACT math standard score of at least 20 or MAT 105.

XIV Statement of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact Sabrina Y. Dial, Director Equal Opportunity, Murray State University, 103 Wells Hall, Murray KY 42071-3318. Telephone 270-809-3155 (voice), 270-809-3361 (TDD).

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Please fill out this portion, detach it and return to the instructor by **Friday January 21 2011**.

By my signature below, I certify that I have received a copy of the course syllabus for MAT 140 taught by Dr. Donald Adongo during the Spring Semester of 2011. Furthermore, I certify that I have read and understand the contents of the course syllabus.

Printed Name

Signature

Date