

South Plains College
Intermediate Algebra – Math 0320.001 MW
Course Syllabus
Fall 2019

Instructor: Mrs. Morgan Groves
Email: mgroves@southplainscollege.edu
Office: M101
Office Phone: 716-2735

Office Hours: 9:30am – 10:30am MW
10:30am – 12pm TR
8:00am – 11:00am Fridays
(or by appointment)

Textbook/Materials: This section does not require a textbook. This section is based on the OpenStax Intermediate Algebra textbook found at OpenStax.org for free download. Students will need paper for homework, pencil, and a binder to keep course material organized. You are allowed a non-graphing scientific calculator or simpler.

Student Learning Outcomes/Competencies*:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Perform arithmetic over rational expressions.
2. Solve equations containing rational expressions, radical expressions, or quadratic expressions.
3. Graph, analyze, and interpret functions of one variable.
4. Properly use and understand rules of exponents applied to rational exponents and radicals.

*Developed by the Coordinating Board and the Faculty of South Plains College's Math and Engineering Department

Course Requirements: To maximize the potential to successfully complete this course, a student should attend all class and laboratory meetings, take notes and participate in class, and complete all homework assignments and examinations including final examinations. A student should work all homework problems by hand keeping a notebook of all work done in this course.

Course Evaluation: Your final grade will be determined by the average of 3 major tests, the comprehensive departmental final exam, and daily grades. The lowest test grade will be replaced with the final exam grade provided the final exam grade is higher. A minimum grade of 70% is needed to successfully pass this course.

Grading:		Grading Scale:	A 90-100
Daily:	15%		B 80-89
Exams (4):	65%		C 70-79
Final Exam:	20%		D 60-69
Bonus Test:	5%		F 0-59

*****NOTE: I do NOT issue the grade of "PR" for this class under any circumstances. This course and its grade will be recorded on your official transcript for SPC.**

Homework: Most homework assignments will be online through a system called Knewton. You can find directions for creating a student account and getting registered into the online homework system attached. Homework is to be completed by the due dates posted on each assignment. No late homework will be accepted. There might be times when homework is written. This work is to be completed in pencil on your own paper showing all steps, the assignment paper acting as a cover sheet.

Tests: There will be a total of 4 exams in this course. No notes/homework/textbooks will be allowed on ANY exam. All exams are expected to be completed in the allotted class time, no exceptions. No exam grades will be dropped. However, ***if your final exam grade is higher than your lowest test grade, then it will replace your lowest test grade at the end of the course if you have fewer than 3 absences.*** Exam corrections are for your own learning well-being and will not be graded but are expected to be completed after each exam is returned. Exam grades are not posted online anywhere. You will get all of your exams back. It is in your best interest to save ALL graded documents until your final grade is assigned at the end of the term. If you do not take the final exam, you will fail the class regardless of your average at the time of the final.

Bonus Tests: There are weekly bonus tests on Knewton. If you complete these tests, you can earn up to 5 percentage points added to your final grade. These tests are optional but they are timed and they do expire at the end of each week. The average of your bonus test scores will determine the number of points added to your final average (i.e. If you average 80% on the bonus tests, then you will be awarded $80(0.05) = 4$ points to your final average.) Any bonus test you skip will be scored as a 0.

Late work: Late work is not accepted. If you do not turn in an assignment on time, you will receive a zero.

Class Notes: The class notes (outline) will be posted on Blackboard for you to print. It is the responsibility of the student to bring the notes to class everyday. Be sure to look at the tentative calendar to see what topics we will cover next.

Attendance Policy: Attendance will be taken every class period. Students who arrive late, leave early, or sleep during class will be counted $\frac{1}{2}$ absent. **Any student who misses 4 consecutive classes or exceeds 5 total absences throughout the semester will be administratively dropped and receive a grade of X or F.** Doctor's notes are NOT excused absences. They are always appreciated in order to keep the instructor informed of your situation, however. The only excuses absences are court dates, in which case prior notification and proper documentation are required for the absence to be excused.

Academic Integrity: Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. You are expected to uphold the ideas of academic honesty. All work that is graded must be your own. This policy applies to all work attempted in this course. If this policy is violated the student will receive an F for the assignment. If any case of academic dishonesty occurs, you will lose the privilege of allowing your final exam to replace your lowest test grade. Furthermore, the instructor preserves the right to drop you from the course with an F. You will also never be allowed to take another course with this instructor in the future. For more details on what is considered cheating, see the South Plains College catalog. The instructor will make the decision to report you to the college and have the academic dishonesty put on your permanent record. If you are caught cheating on any assignment, you will not be allowed to take another class with this instructor in the future.

Class Rules:

- Be courteous and respectful at all times.
- Be on time and ready to learn.
- Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
- Use only pencil for all assignments.
- No food or drinks in class other than bottled water.
- Students are not permitted to use electronic devices, other than a calculator, in class.
Put the cell phones away!!
- During testing, all cell phones should be placed on SILENT or turned off, and all smart watches need to be removed and placed inside a bag and out of sight. Any student who leaves the classroom for any reason (bathroom, phone call, etc.) during an exam will not be allowed to continue the exam upon their return. Once you leave the classroom during an exam, you are done.
- Adhere to the requirements of the Student Code of Conduct.

Core Objectives:

This course satisfies the following 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

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.

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 at South Plains College 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. You must also talk directly to your instructor to inform her of your requests. This conversation must happen within the first two weeks of classes.

Campus Concealed Carry:

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, please refer to the SPC policy at: http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.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.

Disclaimer

The instructor reserves the right to alter any class policies as deemed necessary by the instructor or South Plains College, and will announce any changes in class. If a student has any questions about a change in policy ask the instructor for clarification.

**Intermediate Algebra – Fall 2019
Tentative Calendar**

Day	Date	Topic	Section	Bonus Test
Monday	Aug 26	Syllabus/1-Variable Linear Equations Review	1.1	1
Wednesday	Aug 28	1-Variable Linear Inequality Review Absolute Value Equations and Inequalities	1.2	
Monday	Sep 2	<i>Labor Day Holiday</i>		2
Wednesday	Sep 4	Mixture and Uniform Motion Applications	1.3	
Monday	Sep 9	Graphing Lines Review Plotting Point; Intercepts; Slope-Running	1.4	3
Wednesday	Sep 11	Writing Equations of Lines Review (Slope-Intercept and Point-Slope Forms)	1.5	
Monday	Sep 16	Linear Inequality (2-Variable) Graphs Graph Systems of Linear Inequalities	1.6	4
Wednesday	Sep 18	Relations and Functions Graphs of Functions	2.1	
Monday	Sep 23	Exam 1	Unit 1	5
Wednesday	Sep 25	Factoring Review Polynomial Equations (Solve by Factoring)	2.2	
Monday	Sep 30	Simplify Rational Expressions	2.3	6
Wednesday	Oct 2	Multiply and Divide Rational Expressions	2.4	
Monday	Oct 7	Add and Subtract Rational Expressions (Like and Unlike Denominators)	2.5	7
Wednesday	Oct 9	Simplify Complex Rational Expressions	2.6	
Monday	Oct 14	Solve Rational Equations Applications	2.7	8
Wednesday	Oct 16	Radicals: Definition and Simplifying Square Roots and Higher Roots	3.1	
Monday	Oct 21	Exam 2	Unit 2	9
Wednesday	Oct 23	Add and Subtract Radical Expressions	3.2	
Monday	Oct 28	Multiply and Divide Radical Expressions	3.3	10
Wednesday	Oct 30	Solve Radical Equations	3.4	

Monday	Nov 4	Simplify using Rational Exponents	3.5	11
Wednesday	Nov 6	Operations with Complex Numbers	3.6	
Monday	Nov 11	Exam 3	Unit 3	12
Wednesday	Nov 13	Solving Quadratic Equations: Square Root Property Solving Quadratic Equations: Completing the Square	4.1	
Monday	Nov 18	Solving Quadratic Equations: Quadratic Formula	4.2	13
Wednesday	Nov 20	Applications of Quadratic Equations	4.3	
Monday	Nov 25	Exam 4 <i>No Make-Ups!! Come to class!!</i>	Unit 4	None
Wednesday	Nov 27	<i>Thanksgiving Break</i>		
Monday	Dec 2	Review for Final Exam		None
Wednesday	Dec 4	Review for Final Exam		
Monday	Dec 9	Final Exam 8:00am – 10:00am	ALL	