

South Plains College

Syllabus for Mathematics 1314 College Algebra/ Section 364, 365, 366/ Fall 2026

Instructor of Record: Dr. Paul M. Tunstall Jr **Office Hours:** during regular school hours
Room LCHS Room 606 **Phone:** (806) 993-2321 ext. 21606 **Email:** Ptunstall@lcsd.net

Reference Textbook

Pre-calculus: graphical, numerical, algebraic, Demana, Waits, et al, 2024, 11th Edition, Pearson Education.

Supplies

A supply of pencils, pens, and one or more folders for keeping and completing assignments, taking notes, etc., will be needed.

General Course Purpose

The purpose of the course is to provide a fundamental background in college algebra and pre-calculus to meet the mathematics requirement for the core curriculum and to provide a basis for further study in mathematics.

General Course Requirements

To maximize the potential to complete this course, a student should attend all class meetings, take notes and participate in class, complete all homework assignments and examinations including final examinations.

General Disclaimer

To successfully complete the course objectives, the students must already be prepared to factor algebraic expressions, reduce, add, subtract, multiply, divide, and simplify rational expressions, and simplify, add, subtract, multiply and divide exponential and radical expressions.

Class Cancellation Notice

In the event of class being cancelled, the student will make up work on a revised schedule.

Grading Policies*

<i>Grading Scale</i>	90 or above	A
	80 to 89	B
	70 to 79	C
	59 and Below	F
<i>Assignment Weights</i>	Major Test Grades	60% of 86%
	Daily Grades	40% of 86%
	Exam Grade	14%
	Semester Grade is $86\% + 14\% = 100\%$	

***Notes:**

- 1) Students must justify answers or show work on all problems to receive full credit.
- 2) These weights may vary slightly from your high school grade in this course.

Finality of Grades

The Final Semester Grade cannot be changed once submitted to the SPC registrar.
A grade of C (70%) or above is required to advance to the next course

This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement: Mathematics Foundational Component Area (020)

Core Curriculum Objectives Addressed:

- Communications skills—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- Critical thinking skills—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- Empirical and quantitative competency skills—to manipulate and analyze numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions

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

- Demonstrate and apply knowledge of properties of functions, including domain and range, operations, compositions, and inverses.
- Recognize and apply polynomial, rational, radical, exponential and logarithmic functions and solve related equations.
- Apply graphing techniques.
- Evaluate all roots of higher degree polynomial and rational functions.
- Recognize, solve and apply systems of linear equations using matrices.

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment: A diagnostic test and a pre- and post-test questions may be used to determine the extent of improvement that the students have gained during the semester

Course Evaluation: There will be final exam given by all instructors which may not be exempted.

Academic Honesty & Equal Opportunity

Students are expected to uphold the ideas of academic honesty as noted in the common course syllabus. 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 and will be dropped with an F. For more details on what is considered cheating, see the South Plains College catalog.

As noted in the common course syllabus, 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.

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

- 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;
- Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
- Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
- Missing in-text citations.

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

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

Disabilities 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.

Expectations of the Instructor for the Student

The instructor is within all rights to expect that the student do the following:

- Show up on time, as scheduled, to receive and learn all information pertinent to the course and be mindful of any schedule changes.
- If you are going to drop this or any other SPC course, **all drops should be completed by December 3 of 2026**. There will be no drops given after this date.
- Read the syllabus! You will remain subject to the criteria outlined herein whether you read this or not, so it is in your best interest to do so! Take advantage of all resources available to you. In the collegiate setting, all students are considered adults and are expected to uphold conduct worthy of such consideration.
- Be mindful of the classroom setting and the roles therein. While student tuition is vital to the well-being of this academic institution, this does not warrant the concession of any instructor to you in a manner that compromises the integrity of the classroom setting and that of the institution itself. Bring all materials needed for the course and refrain from bringing anything that is not needed. This allows you to pay attention to the subject matter only and shows the instructor that you are prepared to learn.
- Be willing to work together with – but not do work for – fellow classmates. Networking is an essential tool both in the workforce and the in the classroom; furthermore, the greater the number of minds there are involved, the less mental labor is required for each individual.
- Keep all homework assignments organized in a folder or binder. Online assignments must be completed in your folder. This will prove to be helpful in preparing for the exams. Write all graded work legibly and generally in pencil. Work early enough to get help if needed.
- Turn all electronic devices off that have no use in the classroom setting. If an unsanctioned device is in use inappropriately during an exam, then its grade will be zero percent (0%).
- Electronic devices will be used for their initial intended function only.
- Students may obtain missed information and assignments from a fellow classmate as necessary.

Coursework: Classwork is expected to be done as assigned. Most of the work in this class can be finished in class, but occasionally assignments may need to be completed at home. Written assignments may also be given as necessary where long-form answers are required. Any long-form answers must have all work shown in an organized fashion, and all answers must be given in complete, grammatically correct sentences that convey a logical thought process and answer the question or address the issue.

College 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.

Non-Discrimination 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 parenting (paternal or maternal) with children under the age of 18 per Texas Education Code 51.982 and Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To activate accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy and parenting accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Health and Wellness Center. 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 Health and Wellness Center at 806-716-2529 or email rcanon@southplainscollege.edu for assistance.

Campus Concealed Carry: Texas 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. 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.

Intellectual Exchange Statement: In South Plains College courses, the instructor will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group difference 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 intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should.

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CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team: South Plains College is committed to ensuring the safety, health, and well-being of its students and community. To support its campus community SPC has a CARE Team. This is a dedicated group of campus professionals responsible for assessing and responding to students who could benefit from academic, emotional, or psychological support, as well as those presenting risk to the health or safety of the community. If you see someone experiencing challenges, appearing distressed, posing a threat to their safety or someone else's safety, or causing a significant disruption to the SPC community, please submit a CARE Team referral. You may also submit a referral for yourself if you would like additional support. NOTE: In cases where a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911.

COVID-19 (Rev. 3/18/2024): If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, please do not attend class and either seek medical attention or get tested for COVID-19.

- Cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing
- Fever or chills
- Muscles or body aches
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste and smell

Please also notify DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN, Associate Director of Health & Wellness, at dedens@southplainscollege.edu or 806-716-2376

- 1. SPC will follow the recommended 3-day isolation period for individuals that test positive.
 - a. Please note that day 0 is the date of positive test. Day 1 begins the first full day after the date of positive result.
- 2. COVID reporting
 - a. Please have students and employees notify DeEtte Edens if they have tested positive to verify dates before returning to class or work.
 - b. The home tests are sufficient but students need to submit a photo of the positive result. The date of test must be written on the test result and an ID included in the photo. If tested elsewhere (clinic, pharmacy, etc.), please submit a copy of the doctor's note or email notification. Results may be emailed to DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN at dedens@southplainscollege.edu.
 - c. A student is clear to return to class without further assessment if they have completed:
 - ☐ The 3-day isolation period, symptoms have improved and
 - ☐ they are afebrile for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- 3. Please instruct students and employees to communicate with DeEtte Edens prior to their return date if still symptomatic at the end of the 3-day isolation.
- 4. Exposed individuals will not be required to quarantine. If exposed, SPC does request individuals closely monitor themselves. If an individual does become symptomatic, please do not attend class or work and be tested.

Artificial Intelligence Statement: Purpose of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Applications:

AI applications such as ChatGPT, OpenAI, Bard, Grammarly, WordTune and others are advanced language models designed to aid and engage in meaningful conversations, as well as, generate and revise content. AI is intended to supplement learning, stimulate critical thinking, and enhance academic discourse. However, its use comes with certain responsibilities.

· Academic Integrity:

Using AI to generate academic work, including essays, reports, or assignments, without proper attribution is a violation of SPC academic integrity policies. Plagiarism undermines the learning process and is strictly prohibited. Students must ensure that their work reflects their own ideas, research, synthesis, and analysis and appropriately cites all sources, including AI.

· Collaboration and Consultation:

While AI can be a valuable resource, it is essential to strike a balance between seeking assistance and maintaining personal responsibility. Collaboration with peers, consulting instructors, and utilizing other approved learning resources should be prioritized. Overreliance on AI for solutions without actively engaging in the learning process is discouraged and can be grounds for academic integrity violations. Utilizing AI as a tool for brainstorming or research is allowed but the writing should be the student's own work and thoughts.

· Critical Thinking and Originality:

AI usage can provide suggestions and information, but it is essential to critically evaluate the responses and exercise independent thought. Relying solely on AI for answers deprives students of the opportunity to develop their analytical and problem-solving skills. In assignments where originality, creativity, and independent thinking are valued, AI would be detrimental to the student learning process. Critical thinking and originality emphasize the importance of independent thinking in all academic endeavors as part of the student's learning experience apart from outside influence and offers the student the opportunity to refine their unique, individual voice through academic discourse with other students and faculty.

· Ethical Use and Bias Awareness:

AI is trained on large amounts of data from the internet, which may include biased or inaccurate information. Be mindful of the potential for bias and critically evaluate the responses provided by AI. Therefore, when using AI, just like with using any other database, students must verify that the information is from reliable sources, question any potential biases, and ensure that the information and sources used in the paper are neutral, peer-reviewed sources.

· Responsible Engagement:

Students should engage with AI in a respectful and responsible manner and avoid using offensive language, discriminatory remarks, or engaging in any form of harassment or inappropriate behavior. Students should also uphold the standards of respectful communication in addressing both AI and fellow classmates.

- Compliance with South Plains College Policies:

Policies regarding the appropriate use of AI in South Plains College courses are set by instructional departments and individual instructors. Appropriate use of AI may range from strict prohibition to assignments they may require the use of AI. Misusing or violating the guidelines outlined in this syllabus warning may result in disciplinary action, including academic penalties. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the specific course policies regarding the use of AI and adhere to them throughout the semester.

Remember, AI can be a tool to support your learning in certain courses and assignments, but it cannot replace the critical thinking, creativity, and independent work that are integral to your overall academic growth.

Rev. 6/11/2024

Rev. 3/18/2024 - COVID (Isolation from 5 to 3-days)

Rev. 9/2023

MATH 1314 SEMESTER SCHEDULE FALL 2025

DC College Algebra Topics MATH 1314 Fall 2025
with Testing as Needed Throughout the Semester

Week of

Aug

- 12 •DIAGNOSTIC TEST/ LEVELING
- 17 •DECOMPOSITION OF PARTIAL FRACTIONS
- 24 •RATES OF CHANGE
- 31 • ANALYSIS OF MULTIPLE FUNCTION TYPES

Sept

- 7 • ANALYSIS OF MULTIPLE FUNCTION TYPES
- 14 • ANALYSIS OF MULTIPLE FUNCTION TYPES
- 21 • ANALYSIS OF MULTIPLE FUNCTION TYPES
- 28 •ANALYSIS OF NON-LINEAR EQUATIONS

Oct

- 5 • PROPORTIONS, SERIES & SEQUENCES, BINOMIAL THEOREM, & VARIENCE
- 12 • PROPORTIONS, SERIES & SEQUENCES, BINOMIAL THEOREM, & VARIENCE
- 19 • PROPORTIONS, SERIES & SEQUENCES, BINOMIAL THEOREM, & VARIENCE
- 26 • MATRICES, CONIC SECTIONS, VECTORS & POLAR COORDINATES

Nov

- 2 • MATRICES, CONIC SECTIONS, VECTORS & POLAR COORDINATES
- 9 • MATRICES, CONIC SECTIONS, VECTORS & POLAR COORDINATES
- 16 • MATRICES, CONIC SECTIONS, VECTORS & POLAR COORDINATES
- 23 Fall Break Week
- 30 • MATRICES, CONIC SECTIONS, VECTORS & POLAR COORDINATES

Dec

- 7 • MATRICES, CONIC SECTIONS, VECTORS & POLAR COORDINATES
- 14 • REVIEW & SEMESTER EXAM